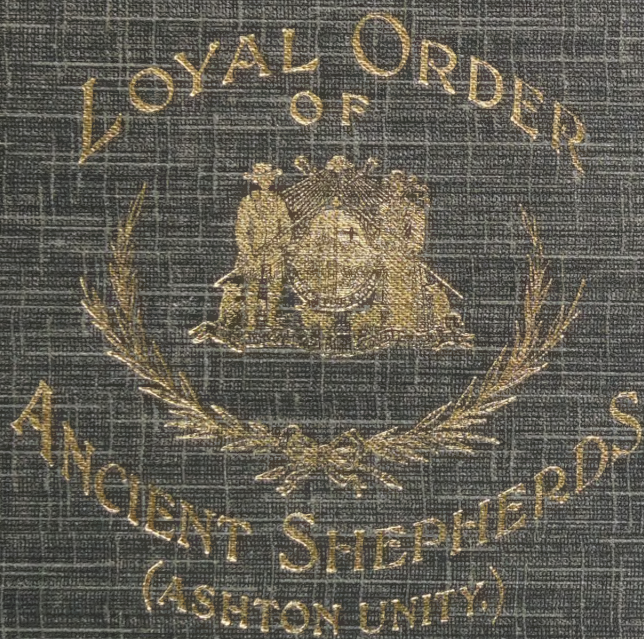
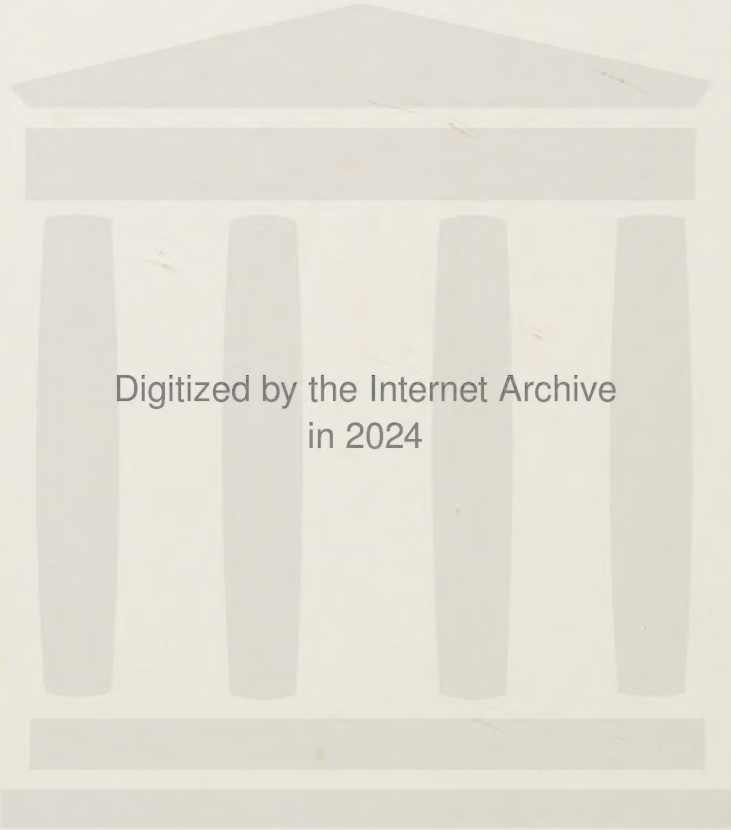




GENTENARY SOUVENIR
1826 — 1926.





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INTERIOR OF THE FRIENDSHIP INN, ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE, CHRISTMAS DAY, 1826.

Loyal Order
of
ANCIENT
SHEPHERDS
Friendly
Society.
A.U.

1826 ·
Centenary
Souvenir
1926.

BY EDWIN CREW.
PAST CHIEF SHEPHERD.

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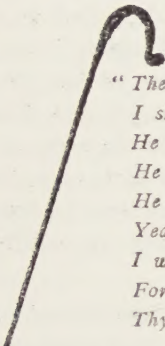


*JOHN HEYWOOD LTD.,
Printers, :: Manchester
London, Blackburn & Dublin*

Shepherds



ANCIENT & MODERN.



*"The Lord is my Shepherd :
I shall not want.
He maketh me to lie down in green pastures :
He leadeth me beside the still waters.
He restoreth my soul
Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I will fear no evil :
For Thou art with me :
Thy rod and Thy staff they comfort me."*

PSALM xxiii. (abridged).



THE LOYAL ORDER OF ANCIENT SHEPHERDS, a hundred years ago, was tenderly planted as a Thought. It was afterwards cultivated and made a living entity, to exemplify in everyday life the Twenty-third Psalm of David. In radiant vision the Psalmist saw and pictured the mission of the Good Shepherd, whose advent was to comfort and help Mankind.

No more beautiful Song has been given to the world,—to enchant our ears with its music, to refresh the soul with its sweetness, to portray all that is needed to meet the wants of Men and Women in Life, in Death, and through Eternity. Every sentence, in its simplicity, is a complete story of love, thankfulness, confidence, and satisfaction. Those wonderful words illumine every part of Man's being. There is a volume in each line. The purity of diction is its beauty. The conciseness of the Psalm conveys a story of fullness not equalled in any other Song.

The TWELVE GOOD MEN OF ASHTON might well have been Divinely inspired, when we consider how marvellously they founded their Society. It was surely built upon the inspiration of that wonderful Psalm of David, and in association with the coming and precepts of One who was announced as "The Good Shepherd."

We have accepted the phrase, "Twelve Good Men of Ashton," as the style and title of the Founders of Shepherdry, and we would not rob their memory of that distinction. It was the loving thought of just those Twelve, so far as records show, who, with mellowed hearts and chastened minds, on that eventful night of the 25th December, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and twenty-six, evolved the Great Idea.

We have pictured them in their discussions at the "Friendship" Inn, Ashton-under-Lyne. Thomas Scholfield is described as Chief of the "Twelve," because he was host of the "Friendship" Inn and took a leading part in the homely debates. Few of the Twelve, however, after discussing the project of establishing a new Society, and passing the resolution to do so, are seen again in the early records as creators and moulders of the Order of Shepherds in its constitution and official government. Nevertheless, the Founders, in meeting together for the definite object of forming a Society, are entitled to the credit.

Thomas Scholfield, and a number of others, had moved in the matter prior to the day set apart for the first formal meeting, and the Twelve had agreed to take the step for which they had met. So that they were in reality the First Members. Others there were who joined up at the second meeting, or in the early stages of the Society. Thomas Scholfield officiated as Treasurer, and George Downs was first Secretary; but, beyond these, none took up any special work. The first Worthy Master, as well as first and second Chief Shepherd, was John Whitehead. The first Deputy Master was Philip Buckley. The latter, although he played an important part in naming the Society, and forming its constitution, is not recorded as reaching any other particular office.

A capable worker and assistant was found in William Leebridge, a well-known Surveyor by profession, who also was an innkeeper. He followed John Whitehead as Chief Shepherd. Then came Thomas Chadwick and John Nield in succession. So that the five individuals named may also be set down as amongst the very first active workers who helped to establish the Society of Shepherds. And there were others whose names will occur later.

GENESIS OF THE MOVEMENT.

Thomas Scholfield was a native of Mossley. When he first moved in the matter of establishing a new sick and burial club his supporters were mostly Mossley friends. They were members of the Independent Order of Oddfellows in the Ashton and Dukinfield district ; and they were denied an extension of their own Society's operations when they pointed out the need.

A hundred years ago the social and industrial conditions of life were indescribably trying compared with those of the present generation, when working people have more ample reward for their toil, easier conditions, greater leisure for self-improvement and diversions, and what may be termed an affluence of opportunities for betterment.

In those earlier days distress and want, especially in times of sickness, or on the death of the chief breadwinner in a household, were very grievous, and the experiences of the suffering poor, without doubt, led to a great emergence of human sympathy and deeds of charity. These, in turn, made possible the conception of reforms for the improvement of industrial conditions, the raising of social status, and the inheritance of privileges and joys, generations later, which were undreamed of when the Shepherd seed was first sown.

It was a common experience for the large-hearted poor to make collective efforts to help the ultra-poor in times of trial and great need, and better-placed people were not slow to join in the good work. So many times were the charitably-disposed called upon to render help, when widows and orphans were bereaved or the husband and father laid low by sickness, that these happenings became a common topic of discussion in the meeting places of men at the close of the day's labour.

So it came about at that happily-named resort, the " Friendship " Inn, such sympathetic considerations frequently arose. The greatest of all calamities to be avoided was a " parish funeral," and no stronger appeal could be made than to secure the wherewithal for a " proper Christian burial."

Thomas Scholfield and some of his " Cronies," as has been stated, were already members of a Friendly Society. They believed in and practised the principle of self-help, or rather a " clubbing " together of regular tributes from their often meagre resources for the purpose of mutual help.

It was a frequent comment among them : " Our turn may come any day. We may be sick and out of work. An accident may disable any one of us. Let us, then, be prepared to hold each other up, and

not be dependent upon the charity of those who often cannot help us if they would, or may be too poor to give sufficient for the need in an emergency."

The foregoing is rather an interpretation of the meaning than the exact form of speech employed. We have to remember that the people concerned were born and bred in a part of Lancashire where the dialect was broad and pronounced, with a good measure of Doric brusqueness. Some of the turns of speech were peculiar to the county—descriptive and wonderfully expressive.

So the conversation would proceed, with an emotional sympathy and vigour of words combined. These were characteristic of the natives—a kind of mixed milk and strong drink to the mental vision of those soft-hearted, hospitable, rough-and-ready sons and daughters of Lancashire.

They had themselves known the usefulness of "club-money" when unexpected sickness came, or when an accident removed one of their number. It was that which turned their thoughts to the formation of another sick and burial society.

A group of them, with their women-folk and neighbours, were discussing, in homely fashion, some such cases.

"Look at Mrs. Griddleton," one pointed out. "Hoo met be an owd wumman, hoo's that crippl't an' done wi' bad health. Eh, dear! It's a sad case."

"So it is," agreed another, giving a twitch to the shawl about her shoulders. "Hoo's bin moidert tut' deeath wi' her mon hevin' nowt to do s'lung."

"An' hoo's ony forty, if hoo's that," added the first speaker, "owd as hoo looks. Aw seed her yesterneet, when aw went reawnd. Bless yer! hoo could herdly cropple across th' heawse, bein' so lame an' racketty."

"It's a gret shame," added a third speaker. "It's a gret shame such troubles should be, an' nowt provided. An' neaw her mon's hed that accident ower i' Mossley; it's a bad mess, wi' aw them little childer to do for."

Then spoke one of the Twelve, who were shortly to deal with the matter of starting a "club," straight and practical—

"Ah! it is. Ther'll hev to be some help gi'n to her. Now, chaps," he added decisively, "we's ha' ta' do somethin'. I vote we send th' hat round straight off."

And so those good-natured neighbours, mainly of the humbler class themselves, and who could consequently feel for the poor and troubled—they gathered together their coppers and sixpences, and



COSTUMES.

CHIEF SHEPHERDS



JOHN HUNT, 1865



WM. WHITE, 1865



THOMAS BROWN, 1866



DAVID RACE, 1869



WM. HODGSON, 1875



MARQUIS NOBLE, 1875



JOS. W. ANDREWS, 1872



WM. HODGSON, 1875



HERBERT L. L. L., 1877

agreed to go about the town of Ashton, as well as the unfortunate Griddleton's native village of Mossley, and the country-side, to plead for this as well as one or two other cases of misfortune.

"We mun divide it up," suggested one.

"Ay," said another. "An' ther's Mary Winter—hoo's hevin' a time a'most as dree as her name, what wi' her mon bein' lain eawt, an' them bonnie childer o' hern: aw seed 'em ceawrt deawn i'th' heawse, welly clammin', an' cryin' ther e'en eawt."

"Aw've just 'yerd abeawt Jack Birtwissle," ventured a third. "He's hed aw'th' bad luck i'th' world wi' one stroke an' anuther; and it's wor' fer him, wi' that heawseful o' yung lads and wenches to feed. An' neaw, to cap aw, his woife's gotten her bed again. Eh! it's a weary mess. We mun do summat for 'em, if we con."

It was agreed that none of them were so "ill-provided for" as those others; but, be that as it may, they never knew when their own turn might come, with "misfortune knocking at the door," in some such terms as we have already set down.

And so they would form a "sick an' buryin' club," and persuade as many working people as they could to think of the possible rainy day, and provide for it.

This was the great cry of humanity expressing itself in mutual, brotherly sympathy, and a transmutation of the Divine yearning to possess the "glorious privilege of being independent." The feeling was quite estimable, and akin to the spirit which inspired the Sir Galahad of romantic story to seek the "Holy Grail."

The Oddfellows had three Lodges in the Ashton and Dukinfield District. Thomas Scholfield and his friends found there was need for another branch, and sought permission to establish one. The leaders of their Society at that time, however, were not enterprising, or, as was too often the case, they were not as broadminded as their movement.

So the disappointed ones talked the matter over at the Friendship Inn, and they decided to establish a new organisation. First it was to be a plain sick and burial club. Then their desire warmed to the project, and they sought to associate with it more of ceremony, mystery and romance, so that it was eventually agreed to start a "Secret Society," which was the popular idea in those days.

Twelve names were recorded as favourable to forming the Club, and a week or two later the first formal meeting was held on Christmas Day.

THE MEETING PLACE.

The Friendship Inn, we are told by an earlier historian of our Order (the late Bro. J. B. Archbald), predecessor of the present Editor of the *Shepherds' Magazine*, was, at the foundation of the Society, comparatively in a suburb of Ashton, and a considerable distance from the existing branches of Oddfellows. Both the interior and the exterior of the house were of "a quaint, homely, village-tavern appearance, and those who attended there were a class of people who could drop into their accustomed seats, and have homely chat upon passing events."



The illustration of the Inn, which, as shown in the *Shepherds Magazine* Jubilee Supplement, was "presented in its originality, the identical structure wherein Shepherdry was conceived." So we have made our drawing from that illustration, without any attempt to amplify its architectural features or depart from its humble pretensions.

Our larger sketch gives an idea of the interior of the meeting room, and the disposition of the occupants, whose liberal pots of ale helped to make the stream of conversation flow, while the friendly pipe added that touch of gravity of demeanour characteristic of all such gatherings in the local forum. (*See frontispiece.*)

It is a fanciful reflection that the Christmas Day of 1826 was what is now termed a typical old-fashioned one. Snow was on the ground, or falling. The cold air nipped faces and caught the bodies

of those who ventured abroad in its icy clasp. The music of the "Waits," the pealing of bells, the singing of choristers—all proclaiming that this day "The Saviour of mankind was born," to bring "glad tidings, comfort and joy"—still lingered in mind and hearing from the early hours of the morning.

Men, women and children were muffled to the ears when they left their homes for worship at the churches. And, as day came to a close, and night drew its mantle over the outer scene, men such as the founders of Shepherdry sallied forth to their meeting place, not merely for the lighter indulgences, but bravely facing the elements with serious intent to carry out the business ordained.

They would certainly be welcomed at the Friendship Inn, and themselves would revel in the comfort of the warm room, as they discarded extra wraps, smacked their hands together before the ruddy fire, settled into cosy chairs, charged their "clays" with tobacco and called for refreshment as a preliminary to the business in hand.

We love to dwell upon the theme. It is the birthday of Shepherdry, as well as the greatest festival of the Christian faith. To quote from our own short sketch in the *Guide and Directory*, of all the Friendly Societies which have blessed and humanised the land, not one has gained its title under a happier and nobler inspiration than that of the Shepherds.

The precise resolutions were not passed at this meeting, but the decision to form a Society was made, and the question of its constitution and presentment left to another and more influential gathering several weeks later. Meanwhile, we may assume that the threads of procedure were being gathered together in the hands of many supporters who rallied to the movement.

The second meeting was held on February 3rd, 1827. The character and enthusiasm of this gathering is described on the evidence of several who were present. Bro. Archbald states that "he had the honour of being personally acquainted with Mr. Thos. Scholfield, Mr. William Shaw, Mr. John Nield, and Mr. Chadwick (who were among the first members and workers), from whom he learned that the commencement of this new Order began to have such an effect upon the inhabitants that many sought the privilege of assisting to swell the number, and to use every exertion to make it a success. Each meeting saw many new faces amongst the group, and confidence for its future prosperity was ensured; so at this gathering there was a good assembly of men of position and education, who gave every possible encouragement to the promoters."

NAMING THE SOCIETY.

The adoption of the name of *Shepherds* was no haphazard affair. We are told that in the discussion almost as many names as there were individuals present were submitted. There was much liveliness in the debate. Enthusiasm, argument and persistence were displayed in all the proposals, showing that the Society had a fine quickening at the outset.

In the end, one Philip Buckley, a mature man verging upon fifty years, sedate in speech, studious and unassuming in manner, presented his proposal. It was an eloquent one from its simplicity and the intensity with which he propounded his reasons for the suggested name of *Shepherds*. All others were silenced, and their propositions set aside by the fascination of the new name.

Philip Buckley it was who invested most of the halo of romance about the Society at its "christening." A Christian name, applied to an individual, is merely a term whereby it is indicated that the distinguishing prefix to an ordinary surname has been given in a ceremonial way, associated with the Christian Church, or, at least, by a Christian minister.

In the case of the *Shepherd's Society*, the whole title was a "Christening." That is, it was an embodiment, or expression, in words of the virtues and mission of Christ Himself, and a declaration that the work of the members was to carry out in a humble but imitative way such work as the "Good Shepherd" set about doing in the course of His comparatively brief life among men.

At that February meeting Philip Buckley dilated upon the pastoral idea of shepherding. He was a Bible student who had been moved to the centre of his being by the poetic beauty of the story of Bethlehem.

His wife was the daughter of a shepherd by occupation, and the word "shepherd" became impressed upon his mind as a sacred term because of the domestic happiness which he enjoyed. Because, also, in his studies of Holy Writ he had sought out and garnered all references to shepherds and shepherding, and especially in association with the coming and going and the loving deeds of the "Good Shepherd," as recorded in the New Testament.

The one word "shepherd" captured Philip Buckley's imagination, with all that it implied in tender care and human feeling. Sweet imageries and beautiful thoughts filled him whenever he found allusions to the care and watchfulness of shepherds in ministering to the wants of their flocks, saving them from wolves and other grim dangers, and especially when he read of the glorious culmination of the idea in the "Good Shepherd" who was born beneath the bright star of Bethlehem.

The rich associations of that season when "*Shepherds watched their flocks by night*"; the wondrous story of old when "*the angel of the Lord came down and glory shone around*"; the happy kinship of the proposed Society's mission with the "*glad tidings*" proclaimed more than eighteen hundred years before, was told in simple

and impressive language by Philip Buckley, and gave the assembled company a theme which thrilled them with its charm.

It was accepted, without further debate, that the members should be styled *Shepherds*—a *Society of Shepherds*. Not only “*Shepherds*,” but, in view of the fact that it was to be a *Secret Society*—that is, its meetings were to be held and business transacted in private—they were to be “*Loyal Shepherds*,” as distinguished from organisations with more sinister motives. Finally, there was added a touch of romance in linking up their title and objects with shepherding right back to the *Shepherds of Bethlehem* in days of old. So they were “*Ancient Shepherds*.” Thus the following resolution was adopted, as recorded, “with acclamation” :—

“That this Society having held its first meeting on Christmas Day, 1826, for the purpose of proclaiming glad tidings to future generations, it is resolved that it shall henceforth be entitled ‘*The Loyal Order of Ancient Shepherds*.’”

Ways and means of extending the usefulness of the Society were next considered, and the following decided upon :—

“That this Society hold its meetings at the house of Mr. Thomas Scholfield, the *Friendship Inn*, *Ashton-under-Lyne*, and that, in the event of extending its usefulness beyond one Lodge, this shall be called the ‘*Loyal Abel, No. 1*.’”

The appointment of officers was then proceeded with, and their titles fixed. Thus the chairman was to be styled and addressed as “*Worthy Master*,” the vice-chairman “*Deputy Master*,” and the trio of elective officers made up by a *Secretary*. John Whitehead was elected *W.M.*, Philip Buckley *D.M.*, and George Downs *Secretary*, whilst Thomas Scholfield accepted the office of *Treasurer*.

DECLARATION OF THE FOUNDERS.

We come now to the “*Declaration of the Founders*.” This was really the “*Authority*” for carrying on the Society. In the case of all branches subsequently formed this authority is termed a “*Surance*,” under circumstances to be related later. The illustration which we are able to give is from a photograph, and shows it to be a unique piece of work. The penmanship was by a young artist named Joseph Newton, an intimate friend of William Leebridge, and so much was the production admired that he would, no doubt, have been entrusted with the task of writing many of the subsequent *Surances* had his services been available. Unfortunately, he emigrated to America soon after.

It is necessary to make the subject matter of the Declaration plain to the general reader. It ran as follows :—

“We, the undersigned, being residents in the Parish of *Ashton-under-Lyne* and its vicinity, do, for the benefit of ourselves and of all who may become members of the same, unanimously agree to form and establish a Society under the name and title of ‘*The Loyal Order of Ancient Shepherds*,’ the intended object of which is to relieve the sick, bury the dead, and assist each other in all cases of unavoidable distress, so far as in our power lies, and for the promotion of peace and goodwill towards all

the human race, in humble imitation of the great Chief Shepherd and SAVIOUR of mankind.

And we do also further agree that the first Lodge of this honourable Order shall be established at the house of Brother Thomas Scholfield, Friendship Inn, Ashton-under-Lyne, aforesaid, and that it shall be entitled 'The Loyal Abel, No. 1,' and that the same shall not be removed from the aforesaid house without showing a just cause why such removal shall take place. Also, that no other Lodge shall be established belonging to this honourable Order without the consent and concurrence of the Officers and Brethren of the 'Loyal Abel, No. 1'; but should any other Lodge be established belonging to this honourable Order of Ancient Shepherds, they shall receive their Surance (authority) from the aforesaid Abel Lodge, No. 1.

ESTABLISHED DECEMBER 25th, 1826.

THOMAS SCHOLFIELD,
WILLIAM SHAW.
GEORGE DOWNS.
GEORGE JOHNSON.
LUKE WHITEHEAD.
JONATHAN LILLY.

EDWARD OUSEY.
JAMES LEES.
JAMES CANAN.
JAMES COPLEY.
SAMUEL WOOLLEY.
JOHN WHITWORTH."

The work was elaborately framed in gilt, and encased in an enclosure with folding doors, on which are inscribed the names of those who have passed the office of P.M. since the Lodge was established. This was fixed to the wall in the Lodgeroom, where it was subsequently flanked by the portraits of Thomas Scholfield and Philip Buckley, the latter, however, not being hung until 41 years after the Society's formation and about 10 years after his death.

PARENTS, BIRTHPLACE AND CRADLE.

Ashton-under-Lyne, it has been abundantly shown, was the "Cradle of Shepherdry." The Society was reared in its earliest stages there. The inspiration and authority remained with that town for many years. Even when the governing elements in the form of Districts, with elective delegations, were ruled by a Central Board, the location of the governing office remained at Ashton for more than sixty years. It was not until the year 1888 that the Dundee A.M.C. decided to remove the headquarters of the Order to Manchester.

It is claimed, with considerable justification, that Ashton does not stand alone as the parent of Shepherdry. That the Order was born there is an established fact, but the village of Mossley, three miles away, produced the fundamental initiative of the Society. The flesh and blood, the mind and genius, the thought which fashioned the Order and put the breath of life into it, came from Mossley!

For some reason—probably the growing industrial importance of the larger place, or the poverty of the smaller—there appears to have been a considerable migration of inhabitants from Mossley to Ashton. Let us recapitulate:

Thomas Scholfield was a Mossley man, and took up residence at Ashton only a little more than a year before the Shepherds' Society was started. Most of his supporters, also, were Mossley friends.

Philip Buckley, the Godfather of Shepherdry, was a native of Mossley.

John Whitehead, first Worthy Master of the "Loyal Abel," and first Chief Shepherd (for two years), had migrated from his native village of Mossley.

Thomas Chadwick, first Chief Shepherd on the formation of Lodges into Districts for governing and representative purposes, and third Chief Shepherd in the line, was Mossley born.

So also was John Nield, the elected C.S. in 1831, in succession to his friend and colleague in constitution-building.

Many of the increasing membership of the "Loyal Abel" came from Mossley, until, for their growing need and convenience, it was deemed necessary to establish a Lodge in that village.

It is fair to record, then, that the heart and brain of Shepherdry, and much of its body, issued from the village of Mossley, although the labour which brought forth the Order was experienced in the town of Ashton.

Therefore, let it be for ever known and acknowledged that the Dual-Parents of the Loyal Order of Ancient Shepherds were Ashton and Mossley.

MULTIPLICATION OF BRANCHES.

In the resolution giving the title of the Society it is plainly evident that the Founders anticipated great good to "future generations" as the outgrowth of their modest combination. It is questionable, however, if the most sanguine of them dreamed of such a rapid multiplication of Lodges as took place within a comparatively short period. Much less could they have envisaged the varied fortunes of the Society, and the massive development eventually attained (notwithstanding wastages by the way) within the course of ten decades.

The enthusiasm of the early Mossley members was shown by the distance they were willing to walk to and from the Lodge-house, altogether about six miles. Those were the days of earnest men, who were not easily turned from their objective by personal discomfort or the trials of adverse weather. Their numbers grew until it was felt to be desirable to establish a new Lodge close to home. Application was made, consent given by the "Loyal Abel," and the first "Surance," or authority, granted for the establishment of the "Good Intent Lodge, No. 2," at the George Inn, Mossley.

How appropriate the choosing of titles seems to-day! "Loyal Abel" was named after the first Shepherd in Scriptural history, and "Good Intent" as the motive of the first offspring. Then came "Loyal David," to commemorate the Psalmist whose music gave soul to the movement, followed by the "Loyal Abraham," the patriarchal father of races. Henceforward many other Scriptural and kindred titles were adopted right through the Society's history and growth.

The opening of the "Good Intent" Lodge took place on the 6th October, 1827. It was a ceremony that aroused almost as

much interest and enthusiasm locally as the inauguration of the "Loyal Abel," except that the romance and beauty of the first conception in naming the Society could never again be exceeded as an inspired thought, nor effaced from memory as a glorious birth.

The "Good Intent" was the first of "stepping stones to greater things" by a multiplication of Lodges. Those who had refused, less than a year before, to satisfy the aspiration of their members for an expansion of the Friendly Society movement in that area, began to open their eyes to the possibility which they had so thoughtlessly rejected. The leaders of the "new Order" pursued their conquering course persistently, enthusiastically and with the virtue of personal self-sacrifice continually exercised. They would often journey afoot for twenty miles to secure the opening of a new branch. Sometimes they were amazed by the success of their work, but never dismayed by their growing obligations, and always stimulated to still greater efforts to advance the cause.

The third Lodge, "Loyal David," was opened on October 10th, at the village of Lees, five-and-a-half miles from Ashton. By a cordial co-operation in their efforts, the three Lodges, as one family, paved the way to further extensions. The members were obsessed with the idea (believing the movement to be a good one for themselves) of spreading its influence and beneficence among their neighbours, and even to more distant parts of the land.

So it came about that the "Loyal Abraham Lodge, No. 4," was opened on April 26th, 1828, at the Castle Inn, kept by William Leebridge, in order to accommodate those persons residing at the extreme east end of the town of Ashton.

Enthusiasm grew rather than diminished, although the popularity of the movement and the flocking of members to the standard of Shepherdry entailed continual calls and arduous work upon the propagandists; still they never seemed to tire of "going about doing good." There is not the slightest doubt that the principles of the Society, and the inspiration of its picturesque naming, imbued the members with the feeling that carrying out such work was a religious duty, in the discharge of which no personal sacrifice was too great.

Branches were established in many directions during the year 1828. The officiating members at the openings were William Leebridge and Thomas Chadwick (chiefly the latter), who were, on September 7th, appointed C.S. and D.C.S. respectively. There was one Lodge opened at Lees, two at Shaw, one at Hey, two at Rochdale, three at Oldham, two at Ossett, one at Huddersfield, one at Colne, two at Stalybridge, one at Wakefield, one at Gorton, one at Manchester, one at Mottram and two at Saddleworth—or twenty-two in all.

Most of the foregoing afterwards passed out of existence as branches of the Order, but the seed was sown and roots were spread, with the result that the Society continued to grow, and is more vigorous and sound in its component parts to-day through the lessons learned from past disasters.

CHIEF SHEPHERDS



James Smith



Wm. L. Johnson



George W. Smith



Richard Bradshaw 1837



George Abbott 1890



Wm. L. Johnson



James Smith



Wm. L. Johnson

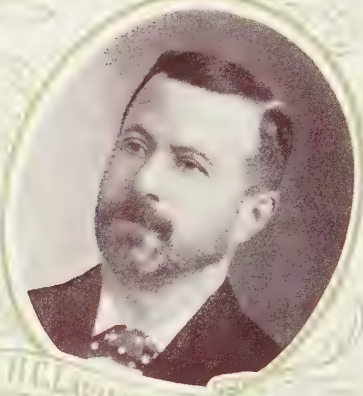


George W. Smith

BRISTOL CHIEFS



OLIVER JACOB DAVIS,
1880.



H. C. LIVINGSTON, 1885.



EPH J. ELLIS, 1881.



EDWARD THOMAS, 1886.



H. C. LIVINGSTON, 1885.

CEREMONY AND AUTHORITY.

In Scriptural times striking methods were adopted of conveying impressions, knowledge and inspiration by parables, symbols, similes and picturesque ceremonies. All could understand the common speech, but relatively few the written word. All, again, could grasp the facts and happenings of life if presented in picturesque comparison with everyday objects and events. So the Shepherds, having commenced their career with the most wonderful of all pictures and examples to portray their mutual object, continued to follow something of the Scriptural method in their further developments.

Ceremonial installations and colourable displays were evolved very early in the Society's history. This was naturally a gradual process. Almost at the outset, Thomas Chadwick and John Nield spent many hours together considering what should be the form of "Authority" for the establishment of branches. The first was the "Declaration" of the original Twelve members of the "Loyal Abel." It was a spontaneous production by the Founders—a Manifesto rather than an Authority, except such authority as was evolved from their own inner consciousness of the great Exemplar of Shepherdry.

On the establishment of new Lodges it was agreed that Authority must be *conferred* by the "Loyal Abel," and no other could be sanctioned. It must come in a kind of Apostolic succession from those representing the Head of the Order, until others were empowered (by combinations of Lodges into Districts from the necessity of growth) to serve as proxies, coadjutors or successors to the "Loyal Abel." This power of mandate eventually returned to and became vested in a greater centre of authority, namely, an elective Head of the Order.

Those early Chiefs were concerned to devise something different in name to any authority known to other organisations; and so they strove to frame a term which would express the meaning of it—"a positive declaration of security and confidence." In the end the word "Surance" was decided upon, and so it has held good, without change, for practically a century. William Leebridge, having considerable gift as a penman, took up the task so well begun by young Newton in the "Declaration," and rendered valued service by the production of the necessary "Surances" for many years.

We are indebted to John Nield for the "Making Ceremony." For some time this was an unwritten oration. He it was who composed it, and gave the oral deliverances at the beginning. It was long afterwards before the terms of the ceremony were committed to paper, became amended, and handed on for use by others. The "Making Song" was composed by Thomas Chadwick, and accepted by the Order a year later. If not specially distinguished by literary merit, these were loving and thoughtful products from the minds of enthusiastic members, at one time regarded as amongst the "Fathers of Shepherdry," and who are, at least, entitled to be classed among the "Makers of the Order."

THE CHIEF SHEPHERD.

A Special Meeting was held at the Castle Inn, of which William Leebridge was the host, the date being September 23rd, 1827, when the happily-conceived title of "Chief Shepherd" was adopted for the presiding officer. This decision was declared in the following terms:—

"That the person to be chosen to sit at the Head of the Order of Ancient Shepherds, to preside over the same, shall be called by the name and title of the Chief Shepherd; and that the choice of the said officer shall be made at the next meeting."

At the same gathering it was definitely put upon record that no other Lodge should be opened without the consent of the "Loyal Abel." This was not intended to be a preventive of expansion, as we have already shown, but as a means of retaining authority, discipline and some consistency in the government of the Order. It was further decided that the First Degree of the Ancient Shepherds should be adopted with the colour of Crimson. (The composition of this lecture was delegated five months later to the first C.S., John Whitehead.)

The next meeting, a week later, was held at the Friendship Inn, when, in anticipation of the first annual assembly on December 23rd, John Whitehead was elected to the office of Chief Shepherd, while William Leebridge was chosen as Deputy Chief Shepherd. Practically, John Whitehead had been the ruling chairman from the month of February, but he was now invested with the formal title of Chief Shepherd, so that although William Leebridge was elected to succeed to the supreme office twelve months later, John Whitehead is placed upon record as C.S. for the first two years—1827–8, and William Leebridge's office is dated for 1829, in which year his term was completed.

Coming to the adoption of processional regalia, to give a touch of the picturesque to ceremonial demonstrations, it is interesting to note that early in the second year of the Society's operations this desire was manifested. On the 11th February, 1828, it was resolved, the meeting being at the "Good Intent" Lodge:—

"That outside and inside Guardians, at processions, carry a pair of shears as an emblem—symbolic of the occupation of sheep-shearing."

An officer who carried the harp was to be known by the title and addressed as "Worthy Minstrel." This office was established as one of the lowliest in the Lodge in recognition of the fact that David, the Psalmist, was a shepherd, who whiled away his lonely hours with minstrelsy on the harp, quite a humble occupation compared with the more exalted position which he afterwards attained as King of Judea. On February 17th it was further ordained:—

"That the Minstrels' harps were to be made of tin; that all members should have aprons made of 'lambskin with the wool on'; that the Lodge Guardians should wear broad-brimmed hats; that the Past Master should have the distinguishing decoration of crimson ribbon worn in the fourth button-hole of the waistcoat; and that the Chief Shepherd should be habited with a mantle."

Why the crimson ribbon should decorate the waistcoat and not the outer coat, and why particularly the fourth button-hole should be utilised, we do not know, except that it would there indicate the waistline, or the position of the watch-guard.

George Downs does not appear to have held the office of Secretary for long. At a meeting on July 20th, 1828, we find a committee of four appointed to compose the Past Master's Charge. These included the C.S., John Whitehead (who produced the first Lecture), W.M. William Shaw, D.M. George Johnson and Secretary W. Schofield. At the same meeting Thomas Chadwick was awarded a vote of thanks for his "Making Song."

As already recorded, on September 7th, William Leebridge was appointed C.S. and Thomas Chadwick D.C.S. It was then that a Funeral Fund was established. Every member was to contribute 2s., and the benefits were: For a member or his wife, £5, and for a widow, £6. William Schofield was also elected to the office, newly created, of Corresponding Secretary, there being now five Lodges interested in the common fund.

BEGINNING THE SYSTEM OF DISTRICTS.

The year 1829 was an important one in decisions, inasmuch as it brought the Society to the eve of a new order of things, and a system of government which, with further amplifications, has prevailed up to the present time.

On March 7th, the gathering being held at Oldham, the P.C.S. John Whitehead, Corresponding Secretary W. Schofield, and James Taylor were appointed to compose a new Lecture.

It was resolved that no officer should serve an elective office in his own Lodge and District at the same time. This meant that he could not be elected to the District until he had "passed" the Lodge offices.

It was resolved also to hold an Annual Meeting on Easter Monday in every year, the first to be held at the "Loyal Abel," No. 1, Ashton; one delegate from each Lodge to attend the Annual Meeting, or be fined a shilling for neglect to do so. Each delegate must be either a present or past elective officer, to ensure some knowledge of the principles and business of Shepherdry.

A month later, on May 10th, at a meeting held at the Mare and Foal Inn, Oldham, a momentous resolution was passed to inaugurate what was the beginning of the system of Districts. It was in the following terms:—

"That in consequence of the rapid increase of Lodges in the Loyal Order of Ancient Shepherds, together with the inconvenience and expense of attending meetings for the purpose of transacting the business of the Order, it is deemed expedient to divide the undermentioned places into Districts, with power to manage their own financial affairs, namely—Ashton, Oldham, Rochdale and Ossett."

It is easy to understand what was meant by the "inconvenience and expense of attending meetings," and the necessity of some changed procedure whereby such inconvenience could be minimised

or prevented becoming too formidable a difficulty as new branches were opened in more and more distant places. Travelling then was a much more difficult matter than is the experience of the present day, when choice is offered of transit by railway, electric tramway, motor car or bicycle and even aeroplane.

Eight months later, in November, the District idea was still further extended. It was stated that all Surances should still be purchased from the "Loyal Abel." There was this qualification: that Lodges at a distance of seven miles from Ashton should be allowed to form Districts, and thereafter to have the privilege of themselves granting Surances for the opening of new Lodges. Each District could also appoint its own officers.

This was the beginning of that system of Home Rule which has been characteristic of the whole Friendly Society movement, and which, it is claimed with truth, has proved a powerful educational factor in developing the manhood of the nation. Possibly no other movement lent itself so universally and wonderfully to the training of working-class citizens for the day when they came to be entrusted with important offices in local government, and even up to the greater field of national legislation.

Naturally, this new prerogative of freedom in the constitution of the Order led to redoubled efforts, by the more zealous and intelligent members of the different branches, to extend their respective Districts, and to improve their methods of conducting the business. The object of the change was to meet chiefly the convenience of members, but it served also as a great spur to the further enlargement of the Order.

PUBLIC PROCESSIONS.

On the 31st May, 1829, the first recorded public procession was organised, which would give opportunity for the display of the symbolic devices which had been adopted from time to time. This took place on Whit Friday, and the work of organisation was delegated to P.C.S. John Whitehead and D.C.S. Thomas Chadwick. The Saddleworth Union Band was engaged for £3 and refreshments. This led the way in what nowadays would be regarded as a formidable walk of many miles. The processionists met at the "Good Intent" Lodge in Mossley, at half-past eight o'clock in the morning, and proceeded thence through Staley Wood, Stalybridge, Ashton-under-Lyne, and finishing at the village of Lees.

It should be noted here that while there was some attractive display in this procession, there was not the splendour of regalia and extravagant demonstration assumed by some other Societies. The Shepherds were considered to be quietly dignified in their methods by comparison, and this it was that led many of the "respectable" or middle-class people, who did not require benefits, to join them. For the times, when education was not so prevalent, the Shepherds, as a consequence, had the assistance of many relatively well-educated men of more than average intelligence.

At the subsequent September meeting the elective offices of C.S. and D.C.S. were bestowed upon Thomas Chadwick and John Nield respectively, so three out of the first four Chiefs were Mossley men : further evidence, if it were needed, of the dominant influence of that village in the early moulding of the Order.

BIOGRAPHICAL.

We pause awhile, in our review of the Order's historical progress, to notice more particularly several of its progenitors, who preceded, but did not come into the line of Chief Shepherds.

Our portrait of Thomas Scholfield does not represent him as he would appear at the foundation of the Society, except in general characteristics. The photograph was taken when he was well advanced in years, whereas he was only forty, and in the prime of life, on the happily-fateful Christmas Day of 1826. As depicted in his old age, he is well preserved and of robust presence. The configuration of his head and face would not have changed much, nor had the snows of winter apparently wiped away such evidence of genial disposition as rendered him popular among his fellows in earlier life.

Thomas Scholfield was born at Mossley in September, 1786, his parents then occupying the "Fleece" Inn. He was educated and served his apprenticeship as a joiner and machine labourer with a Mr. James Wrigley. Eventually, he took up the occupation of an innkeeper at the "Highland Laddie," following the example of his father. It was due to his courteous and genial disposition that he became very successful, and it was not surprising that, when he removed to the "Friendship" Inn at Ashton, he carried with him the support and friendship of many Mossley people.

He died on a Sunday evening, at his residence in Henry Square, Ashton, on December 18th, 1870, forty-four years after the founding of Shepherdry, and within a week of Christmas Day. His remains were buried in the family grave at St. Peter's Churchyard, on December 22nd. The musical part of the service was conducted by three members of the "Loyal Abel" Lodge and others, the anthem sung being, "When the Son of Man shall come in his glory." Bro. Scholfield had two sons and ten daughters, all, except one son, being left to mourn his loss.

The funeral being on a working-day, members of the Order could not attend, and by special request the Rev. Mr. Ogden held a special service in the afternoon of Christmas Day, which fell on the Sunday three days later. The event was wonderfully appropriate. Members assembled in large numbers from distant places as well as the home District. They met to pay their last tribute to the memory of the Founder of the Order in the room which gave it birth.

Amongst those assembled was Past Master James Lees (the only surviving member of the first Twelve); Samuel Adams, James Heap, James Farron, James Wild, Thomas Lawton, Joseph Wood,

Peter Lyne (Bolton), John Whitehead (Oldham), Thomas Brown (Chorley) and David Race (Manchester), all Past Chief Shepherds ; together with District Officers and representatives of kindred Societies.

From the Lodge room at the "Friendship" Inn, the assemblage proceeded in sorrowful procession to the Church for the funeral sermon. The Litany was first rehearsed, and the Anthem was sung, commencing "I heard a voice from Heaven." The preacher made reference to the great Christian festival, and then based his discourse upon the text from Luke ii. 14—"Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, goodwill towards men." The sermon was an eloquent one, and peculiarly fitting to the individual and the occasion as well as the Friendly Society movement.

Returning in procession to the Lodge room, after the Church service, the members held a brief meeting under the presidency of Bro. John Crooks, Prov. C.S., and addresses on Friendly Society work were delivered.

We have dealt with this account of Thomas Scholfield at length from his earliest days to the end—1786 to 1870—because it is one of the most fitting chapters in the history of Shepherdry. His was a noble life, not very pretentious in the finer personal attributes, but mellowed and fashioned by human sympathy, and rounded off by personal service for the benefit of his fellows. It was a life which we can review with satisfaction as becoming to one who was the Father of the Shepherds' Order.

Having accounted for the Parent, it is well we should also introduce more intimately than previous references convey, the Godfather of Shepherds—the one who gave to it a name unequalled for beauty and goodness as to its Mission.

Philip Buckley was close upon fifty years old at the foundation of the Society. He was a native of Mossley, having been born at Luzley in 1777. His birthplace was described, in recording his death nearly half-a-century ago, as "a farmhouse beautifully situated on a hill known as Luzley, from which there is a commanding view of the plains of Manchester." Alas! those fair plains to-day are enveloped in smoke and grime, consequent upon countless industrial and other buildings which cover them, and which almost stifle at birth the growth of any green thing.

Ten years after the starting of the Order of Shepherds, Philip Buckley emigrated to America, being then about sixty years old. The place of his settling was at Newport, in Kentucky, and the land of his fathers knew him no more. News came of his death on the 17th July, 1860, at the ripe age of 83 years. He died ten years earlier than Thomas Scholfield, but had reached within twelve months of the same patriarchal age.

It is a happy reflection that the name of "Shepherds" was born out of not only a rare imagination and religious fervour, but the amiable atmosphere that filled the home of Philip Buckley as stated earlier in these chronicles.

The first Secretary of the "Loyal Abel No. 1" Lodge, George Downs, who retained his membership for many years, appears to have been one of those self-sacrificing gentlemen who were willing to give a helping hand in order to get over initial difficulties. We find little in the records about him, after playing his part in the Declaration, and assuming the office of first Scribe. He is referred to as an intelligent and persevering man, who made himself of great service. He was still a member of the Lodge more than twenty years later. As to his character and disposition, this may be gathered from an allusion which would be locally understood a hundred years ago, but which we can only set down as being a testimony to the estimation in which he was held by his fellows, and which no doubt accounts for his being set down as "first Secretary." The statement indicated that George Downs was "a friend and fellow-labourer of Michael Thomas Sadler in the cause of philanthropy."

William Shaw, the second name on the Declaration, was a native of Mossley. He was an artizan, who went to America in 1831. His personality should not be confounded with that of William Shaw who was elected Chief Shepherd in 1831, and again in 1838.

In a very happy allusion, poetically expressed, George Smith, who was Chief Shepherd in 1843, and eventually succeeded to the editorship of the *Shepherds' Magazine*, wrote of Jonathan Lilley as "a truly honest Shepherd." He was "born and bred in the same mountain district with myself, where the silvery stream glides gently through the tranquil valley, overlooked by the mountain torrent, which tumbles in wild disorder over the shelvy rocks." Jonathan Lilley was much esteemed, and his loss when he died was greatly deplored by the inhabitants of the valley "where his ashes were gathered to those of his fathers."

James Lees was born in 1800, so that he was only twenty-six on the Foundation day. He was a native of Mossley, and a millworker. The day's toil then was almost double what it is now, so that in the case of such humble labourers there was little opportunity for self-improvement. James Lees was content to grow up simply an honest worker with sympathetic instincts. He was one of the Twelve, and remained a member of "Loyal Abel" all his life; but apparently he was not made much of in the Lodge. Forty-one years elapsed before he was elected Worthy-Master. Then suddenly people began to take an interest in him. He was sixty-seven years old.

It is true that six years earlier he was made the recipient of a small presentation, along with three other Shepherd Fathers, amounting in value to less than £5 each, as a recognition of their early connection with the Society.

But in the year stated, 15th December, 1867, it was considered a unique event that James Lees should be elected W.M. for the first time, and thereby regenerated into a sphere of usefulness, in the same Lodge that he and others had started 41 years before.

The gathering was further distinguished by the attendance of Past Chief Samuel Adams, to present to the Lodge a portrait of Philip Buckley, who was his father-in-law. This was hung up, along with the portrait of Thomas Scholfield, one on each side of the "Declaration." James Lees eventually became the only survivor of the Twelve, and it was due to the thoughtfulness of Bristol District, in bringing the matter before the A.M.C. in 1875, that he was awarded 5s. per week for one year, he being in straightened circumstances at the time. Not a munificent recognition, but it was at least "a sign."

The following year, when the Jubilee of the Order was celebrated at Ashton, the veteran Shepherd rode in the procession, and it must have been a glad reflection to him, as he witnessed the gay display in the parade of Ancient Shepherds, joined by many of kindred Orders, to realise that the little group of Founders had grown to a great membership seventy thousand strong, with all that it represented in fifty years of beneficence and noble endeavour to promote the welfare of fellow-men and women. The Annual Meeting at Ashton voted him a pension of 8s. per week for life. He died on the 17th May, 1879.

There are few particulars available in regard to the other Founders. George Johnson, Luke Whitehead, Edward Ousey, James Copley and Samuel Woolley were reported as "still living" twenty years later. James Canan (Cannon), however, had died. Nothing was known of John Whitworth.

The artist who produced the "Declaration," Joseph Newton, was a young friend of William Leebridge. He had acquired much fame by his work in the art of drawing and pen etching. He was a pupil of John Knott, of Jeremy Brook (described as an eccentric character) and also of the Hallwood Academy in Cheshire. Great value was attached to his work in "The Declaration," this being the first "Authority" of the Society. Newton was described as a modest and unassuming man, whose talent—or the praise of it—had not spoiled him. His work was beginning to force itself upon the notice of the public for its artistic excellence, when, unfortunately, like that of many other able men, it was lost to the country by his departure for America. He settled at Pittsburg, after which nothing more was heard of him.

The emigration of so many of the pioneers to America from this particular area, between ninety and a hundred years ago, suggests that great industrial stress and lessening opportunities led the vigorous and active-minded to seek their future in a New World, where romance and adventure, in imagination, at least, opened a more attractive vista than was afforded to many in the old country.

FIRST ANNUAL MEETING OF DISTRICTS.

We return now to the task of pointing out the ordinary stages of the Society's progress. Naturally, in the limited space of one modest volume, we cannot refer to all the details of a hundred years' journey. A broad outline of the march, however, is imperative, and special attention must be given to the chief achievements which marked the Shepherd course, the triumphs as well as disasters by the way, the changes of fortune that troubled the cause and its leaders, and the larger developments.

The first Annual gathering of delegates from the constituted Districts was held at the "Loyal Abel Lodge," No. 1, on Easter Monday in 1830, being the fourth annual assembly of the Order. Most of the dominant prerogative of government was still vested in Ashton, with the "Loyal Abel" as a kind of Father Lodge for guidance. The newly-constituted body, however, was now more scientifically moulded to represent a wider array of branches, and it was more democratic in that originally the individual Lodges were subject to the "Loyal Abel" as Chief Authority, whereas now they were masters of a voting power as branches, to voice the wishes of the membership, to make their own laws and, as Districts, to elect their own chief officers, with the Ashton District as Head of Order.

Thomas Chadwick, the Chief Shepherd, presided. There were sixty delegates in attendance as representatives of the Lodges in the Ashton, Oldham, Rochdale and Ossett Districts. Thirty-four resolutions were passed. Several of these were a curious revelation of carefulness in honorariums, which is some evidence of the disinterested service of the leading spirits.

The C.S. and D.C.S. were each awarded 5s. for their services, while the Cor. Sec. got 25s., the latter to serve "till the funeral fund is divided on Sunday, the 25th inst." The Deputy Chief received an additional 5s. "for applying for the funeral money to the bondsmen." The Guardian was voted 4s.

There were several expulsions for "bad conduct," chiefly breaches of the "Laws of the Order," to which in those days much importance was attached. Several Surances for opening new Lodges were sanctioned, but, it was further agreed—"No more Surances be granted at the Annual Meetings in future."

The Ashton District was confirmed as Chief Authority—to "meet quarterly, as other Districts, and be considered the Head District of the Order." A Supplementary resolution provided that the latter should send a copy of the minutes of its quarterly meetings to all the Lodges "together with a pass-word, and a key to loose such word." Those minutes were not to be binding, but for instruction.

Seven persons were chosen to revise the General Laws agreeably to the minutes of the Order. It was further ordained that

"No District shall alter or amend any General Laws, but such alteration or amendment to be made by the Annual Meeting, and 14 days' notice must be given previous to such alteration or amendment."

In regard to several members of the Full Moon Lodge, Rochdale, expelled for improperly taking away the Lecture Book and Surance, it was resolved—

“That those brothers of the said Lodge, who wished to remain with the Order, be succoured and relieved, and that they have a new Lecture Book and Surance, at the expense of the Order, if the same is not returned.”

A further resolution appointed a Committee of three, who were

“impoured to demand the Lecture Book, Surance, Charges and Obligations of those rebellious characters of the Full Moon,” etc.

The election of Officers of the Order was provided for on lines which detracted somewhat from the full democratic control which might have been expected in an A.M.C. composed of a compulsory representation of every Lodge under a penalty of 5s., even to the extent of the fine being imposed as “for non-attendance” if a delegate left before the final settlement of the business of the Meeting. Resolved—

“That the Officers of the Order be chosen out of the Lodges in the Ashton District, at their first quarterly meeting, the said officers to be elected for twelve months.”

It was agreed further that the funeral fund now be divided according to Districts. For some reason not stated, the Star of Bethlehem Lodge to be allotted two shares per member for the members of other Lodges one share, and that the said Lodge be allowed to join any District they thought proper.

Clearances might be effected from one Lodge to another, but a discretionary power was left to the Lodges as to whether they be allowed to leave or accept such members.

A General Fund was established on the principle maintained to-day, namely:—

“That there be one penny per member paid by every Lodge in the Order, within three months from this date, to form a general fund.”

Otherwise all communication would be stopped. The decision as to where the next meeting of the Annual Movable Committee should be held was henceforth to be taken by ballot, and it was then decided that the meeting for 1831 should be at Oldham.

For the opening of new Lodges, and so that there might be adequate instruction to the new branch, the three elective officers were to be chosen out of the District from those “who had taken all his degrees, and served an inferior office in his own Lodge,” whilst the Past Master of the Mother Lodge should sit as P.M. in the New Lodge, and be remunerated out of the first five makings.

The Annual Meeting having decided to divide the original funeral fund of the Ashton District in the proportions recorded, and the Ashton District's first Quarterly Meeting falling upon the following Sunday—(a week prior to the date of division and allocation of the funeral fund)—the first decision of the Ashton District was to establish its own funeral fund. Presumably every other District would, henceforward, do the same. The contributions and benefits were on the same basis, practically a levy system, beginning with the payment of 2s. at ages between 18 and 40, and a sliding scale after

40 years of age, admissions being rejected altogether in regard to any age above 45. As to the sustenance of the fund generally, the Secretary was empowered to apply to each Lodge in the District for a fresh subscription whenever the funeral money was expended.

The primary object of the funeral fund, as established in 1828, was to provide for the decent burial of members, and in order that the money might not be dissipated in other ways, the officers of each Lodge were empowered to retain £2 of the deceased's funeral money until they were satisfied that an oak coffin was provided for the deceased. It was, at this later date, evidently considered that the question of "decent burial" did not depend upon the character of the wood used in the coffin, for the meeting decided that—

"it is left to the opinion of the friends, relatives, administrators or assigns"—(note here the legal phraseology, indicating the presence of an attorney's clerk at the meeting)—"what sort of coffin they provide for the deceased, provided they inter the body in a respectable manner; if not, then the management (of the funeral) shall be vested in the Officers of the Lodge for the time being, who shall keep a true and faithful account of the expense incurred at such funeral, and return the balance, if any there be, to the deceased friends, relatives, administrators or assigns, if any; if not, to return the overplus into the funeral fund."

The intention is quite clear, but there might have been some difficulty in returning anything to such "friends, relatives," etc., if they were really deceased.

Another definite obligation was placed upon the widow of a member, that if she wished the funeral benefit to be paid to secure her "decent burial," she "must keep herself respectable," besides paying a shilling a year into the Lodge box. In July, 1832, this payment was increased to 6d. per quarter.

FORERUNNER OF THE ORDER EXECUTIVE.

In pursuance of their "Head of Order" position, the delegates of the Ashton District at this meeting exercised their prerogative by electing Bro. Nield (late D.C.S.), of "Good Intent" Lodge, Mossley, to the office of Chief Shepherd of the Order, and Bro. Shaw (P.M.), "Loyal Abel" Lodge, as Deputy Chief Shepherd. Bro. W. Schofield, of the "Good Intent" Lodge, Mossley, referred to as "the *late* corresponding secretary," was re-elected to that post now as an Order Officer for the year; while Past Chief Leebridge was appointed Treasurer of the Order for the like term. A vote of thanks was accorded the Officers "for their able and disinterested behaviour to the Order in general." After providing a "key to loose the pass word," the remainder of the business was applicable to purely District affairs.

This curious mixture of the domestic business of Ashton District and the general affairs of the Order continued. Thus at the subsequent meeting on July 18th, 1830, Surances were granted for new Lodges in Lancashire and as far away as Dewsbury in Yorkshire. In the interest of good behaviour, the host and Worthy Master of a Stalybridge Lodge were fined 5s. each "for their abusive language one to another, which was considered to

be a disgrace to this respectable body "; W.W. was expelled from a Greenacresmoor Lodge for " disgraceful and unmanly behaviour "; and A. B. was expelled from a Saddleworth Lodge for " the shameful and disgraceful crime of pocket picking."

These were not merely isolated instances of a rigid determination to keep the Order respectable. At the October Meeting of the Ashton District, in the fourth year of the Society's existence, this early " Head of Order " body found it necessary to issue the following fulmination against " Pride and vain bubbles " :—

" It has been represented that some very expensive and unconstitutional practices are springing up in some of the Lodges in this our hitherto respectable Society, contrary to the use and Justifiable Laws laid down at the commencement of this our honourable Order, viz., Pride, and a very expensive Regalia, which is undoubtedly contrary to order and good and wise government. It would be better if such expense was laid out to better advantage, for which purpose it was contributed, that is for relieving the sick, distressed and deceased of our Order. And never let it be said, when some of you are laid on a bed of sickness, that your funds are inadequate to relieve the distressed of your Lodge, because Pride has so blinded you that you could not perceive these evils. And if such evils do and will exist amongst you, some very decisive step must be taken to put them down, or we shall be upbraided with a discerning public, and some will say that the Ancient Shepherds lay all their funds out in Pride and Vain bubbles, and are not able to hold out the hand of charity to those whose distresses call for your aid and support."

Somewhat halting in grammatical construction it may be, but the foregoing, taken as a decree and warning, was altogether admirable. If " Our Founders " lacked the actuarial experience upon which to build their financial edifice, they were possessed of all the grand motives and virtues alike of brotherly consideration for the distressed and bereaved and a business-like acumen based upon commonsense. Their reproof was against extravagant dealing in the Lodge affairs, the need of wisdom in the preservation of funds, and discretion as to their behaviour in the eyes of a censorious public.

The next meeting was held on January 16th, 1831. It was then revealed that the wisdom of having some sort of accumulated fund for funeral liabilities was beginning to dawn upon the leaders of the District. The payment of 2s. each upon entry, and then waiting until the fund was exhausted before making a further levy, was a precarious position for the fund. Anxiety to meet sickness payments had been plainly evinced. It was now resolved each Lodge in the District should send one shilling per member every quarter day—practically a penny per week—until the funeral fund was augmented to £40.

The A.M.C. of 1831 was held at Primrose Bank, near Oldham, C.S. John Nield presiding. Among the enactments were the following :—

" No member to be initiated for a less entrance fee than 12s. 6d. under a penalty of one guinea, to go to the District fund.

Any member residing more than three miles distant from his Lodge may change to any other Lodge provided he and his wife are in good health.

A levy of 4d. per member was laid to provide for general expenses of the Order.

Honorary members over 45 years to be accepted on paying initial money and premium, but to receive no benefit.

Whether medals should be worn by Past officers was left to the discretion of Lodges, etc.

Every Lodge to bring to the next Annual Meeting a full return of effective, deceased, expelled and suspended members, and such returns to be made every year.

The funeral oration, brought from Ossett, was adopted.

Bro. Bates, of "Loyal David" Lodge, presented for inspection paintings of armorial bearings. The design was adopted, Bro. Bates to have the work of all the paintings required for the next twelve months as compensation for his trouble.

A lecture, known as the Pink Degree, was adopted.

The Chief Shepherd, with P.M. Frederick Taylor, to go to Mr. Heginbottom, Attorney, of Ashton, to ascertain if he will commence an action at law, against the bondsmen of William Farmer (for return of the funeral funds) on the terms of no cure no pay."

Then followed the Quarterly Meetings of the Head of Order District, the first gathering being held on the Sunday following the A.M.C., and Deputy Chief Shaw was elected Chief Shepherd, Prov. Chief Howard, D.C.S., W. Schofield, Cor. Sec., and Robert Buckley, Treasurer.

At the July Meeting "Lily of the Valley" Lodge was fined £5 for readmitting a member without having paid his full arrears to the funeral fund; and the Committee immediately added a further resolution, out of compassion for the distressed position of the Lodge, making a present to it of £5.

Henceforward disciplinary resolutions, expulsions and suspensions for bad conduct were frequent, the evident determination being to purge the Order of all unworthy members.

Rochdale was the venue of the A.M.C. in 1832, when C.S. Shaw presided. Owing probably to the increasing number of branches the representations were limited to one delegate for three Lodges in future. An attempt was made by Ossett District to remove the Head of Order to Oldham, but the proposition was rejected. The allowance to the C.S. for his year's services was increased to £2, to the D.C.S. 25s., and the Cor. Sec. 50s.

At the subsequent Quarterly Meeting, Prov. C.S. E. Robinson was appointed C.S., P.M. Johnson, of the "Loyal Abel," D.C.S., and P.C.S. John Nield, Cor. Sec. At the October meeting Bro. Johnson had resigned the office of D.C.S. and P.M. Thomas Bramall, of Eastern Star Lodge, was elected in his place. In January, the explanation appears of the appointment of P.C.S. John Nield as Cor. Sec. in a minute stating—

"That this Committee sanction the suspension of William Schofield, late Cor. Sec. of the Order, for neglecting to pay to the Order the sum of £4 3s. 2d. owing by him to the Order, also the sum of 3s. 9d. owing by him to the 'Good Intent' Lodge, together with the expense of a special committee."

It is interesting to note that at the A.M.C. of 1833, held at Ossett Street Side, the published return of members was 3,007 in nine Districts, as follows:—Ashton 844, Oldham 380, Rochdale 420, Ossett 303, Huddersfield 376, Halifax 191, Heptonstall 200, Leeds 100, Colne 193. Of these nine Districts, all but Leeds and the almost

effete Ashton (which it is hoped to resuscitate) have passed away. The resolutions of the Committee were largely of a negative character, including refusals to print a list of Lodges, register the Society, remove the Head of Order, make the Annual Committee stationary, do away with Sunday meetings, etc. Lodge Seals, with the armorial bearings, were adopted; and the general laws reported as printed at a cost of £21 5s.

This Annual Committee, for some reason not stated, elected its own officers, as a temporary procedure, and no appointments were made in the usual way at the Head of Order District. The officers elected were P.P.C.S. James Taylor, "Good Intent" Lodge, as Chief Shepherd; P.M. Joseph Gibson, "Zionite" Lodge, as D.C.S.; and P.C.S. John Nield, Cor. Sec.

It will have been noticed that in several instances, now and in the past, members were appointed C.S. without having necessarily served first as D.C.S.; and again, as with Bro. Gibson, when appointed D.C.S., he was only a Lodge Past Master and had not served the District offices. It will be further noted that the D.C.S. did not always reach the office of C.S. in immediate succession. Instances have been seen at previous meetings, and Jos. Gibson as D.C.S. for 1833-4 was not elected C.S. in 1834, that appointment being given to William Moss, of the "Loyal Abel," while James Bradbury, of Laban, was elected D.C.S. and did not succeed to the higher office.

The A.M.C. in 1834 was held at Huddersfield. A travelling system, previously left to the discretion of Districts, was now adopted by the Order, each District being called upon to report the places where travellers were to be relieved, to be printed in the next Quarterly Statement. This was set in operation at a special meeting held on April 13th at Ashton.

It was also decided that no new Districts be formed without the consent of the A.M.C., but that all Lodges within three miles of Ashton were to belong to the Ashton District, and those above that distance were to be allowed to form themselves into Districts with the beforementioned formal sanction of the A.M.C.

The Cor. Sec. was to have a fixed salary, £6 being paid, and he was to give a surety for £30, the appointments to be made by the Annual Meeting from the membership of Ashton District. P.C.S. John Nield was re-elected to the post. The other officers were for the occasion appointed by the Annual Meeting, William Moss as C.S. and James Bradbury as D.C.S. It was also agreed at the subsequent Quarterly Meeting of Ashton, as Head of Order District, that these three officers serve as stated—"as appointed by the Annual Meeting." No explanation is given of the assumption by the Annual Meeting of the prerogative of electing its Chief Officials, as a proposition at the next A.M.C. that this should be the regular procedure, was rejected (except in regard to the Cor. Sec.) and the privilege reverted to the Ashton District Quarterly Meeting. In January, 1835, the latter decided that the widows' contributions to the funeral fund should be raised from 6d. to 1s. a quarter.

In accordance with the resolution at the Annual Meeting to establish a travelling scheme, a meeting of the different Districts

was held at the "Lamb" Inn, Ashton, "for the better purpose of adopting suitable Rules for Travelling Brethren." The various resolutions numbered sixteen. They are not set out in detail here, having become obsolete, and our space being limited.

Heptonstall was the scene of the Conference in 1835, when it was agreed that a charge, or promise, sent from Oldham District, be substituted instead of the oath. Most of the business was of a routine character and presented nothing of historic moment.

At the subsequent Quarterly Meeting of Ashton District, Joseph Gibson was elected C.S. and P. Prov. Secretary Bower, D.C.S., the last D.C.S., James Bradbury, failing to "go up." P.C.S. John Nield ceased to act as Cor. Sec. of the Order and Jesse Tinker, Secretary of Ashton District, was appointed to fill his place.

THE FIRST PUBLISHED C.S. ADDRESS.

At Halifax, in 1836, when C.S. Joseph Gibson presided, an opening address was delivered by the C.S. and printed in the Report for the first time. It was not an elaborate or a very lengthy document—chiefly an acknowledgement of the toil of those who had gone before in building up the Order, and a panegyric on the character and progress of Shepherdry. The Chief, however, expressed his pride in presiding over such a "respectable meeting." Respectability and worthiness in the membership was a keynote of those early deliverances. He reminded the delegates of their importance, in whose hands was "the whole and sole management of the Order," all other Committees, notwithstanding the prerogatives of the Ashton District, being "in subjection to that Annual Movable Committee." The Order, he added, had "prospered most wonderfully." "Shepherdism is now completely unshackled, and is conducted upon the most liberal, impartial and independent principles, every exertion being made for the general good by the gratuitous services of its governors." Proceeding, after mentioning that 21 Lodges had been opened since the last meeting, he expressed the opinion that, although the progress of the past two or three years had "agreeably surprised the Order's Best Wishers," he felt it was *growing too fast*. He gave as his reason:—

"That many Lodges were opened more for the gratification of the host than upon those genuine principles which they ought to be. Hence it was that characters get introduced into the Order who were not worthy of becoming members of Society, and would ultimately very much reduce the respectability of the fraternity."

The address ended with some worthy injunctions in regard to cases coming before the delegates:—

"Judge with candour; admonish with freedom; reprehend with mercy"; and "do not waste the time of the Committee by any useless or unnecessary argument."

The latter appeal, nearly a hundred years old in Shepherd meetings, is not worn out yet. At this meeting the membership was reported as 145 Lodges and 5,468 members. These numbers, in that early day of modest aspiration and limited horizon, were considered a great Order, which was suffering from *growing pains*

in the shape of "unworthy members." Fifty-one delegates attended the A.M.C., which, for a membership of between 5,000 and 6,000, was a much more direct democratic representation than is possible to-day. At this same meeting Jesse Tinker was elected to his first full year as Cor. Sec.

At the subsequent Quarterly, D.C.S. Bowers was duly elected C.S. and P.M. Johnson (Nottingham Castle Lodge) D.C.S. In October the following appeared among the "Appeals":—

"George Bowers, C.S. of the Order, being one of the officers of the above Lodge ('Eastern Star'), and having been summoned or noticed to attend the Quarterly Meeting, it was agreed—'That he, C.S. Bowers, be expelled the Order of Ancient Shepherds, for addressing a contemptuous letter to Sec. Tinker, in a part of which disgraceful insinuations were made on the Quarterly Committee, and likewise neglecting to attend before the Quarterly Committee when duly noticed.'"

Owing to this expulsion, P.C. Joseph Gibson was elected to continue to serve for the next six months. The matter, however, was not allowed to rest there, and an appeal was made to the A.M.C. on Easter Monday, at Leeds.

CHALLENGE TO ASHTON DISTRICT.

It is informative to interpolate here an address published in the Quarterly Report on December 30th, 1836, preceding the statement of accounts, also propositions and appeals for the next A.M. This was signed by Joseph Gibson, acting C.S., James Bradbury, D.C.S., and Jesse Tinker, Sec. The address was in the following terms:—

"It is with deep regret that we state to you that (since our last) G. Bowers, C.S., has been expelled by the Ashton District Quarterly Meeting, and that S. Johnson, D.C.S., has been suspended from his Lodge for fraud or imposition. This, we presume, will be by some persons considered as a stigma on the Order, or on the Ashton District, as if they were incapable of appointing persons competent to fill such high and important offices. This, we hope, will add no weight to some of the propositions sent to be discussed at the A.M.C., but, on the other hand, will be an honour to the members of the Ashton District for doing their duty, and if the laws be broke, to see them fully and fairly adhered to."

Other matters were mentioned in the address, but the significance of the foregoing will be gathered from the fact that among the propositions for the A.M.C. were:—

"That the election of the C.S., D.C.S. and Cor. Sec. be movable with the Annual Meeting, and that they be elected out of the delegates the year previous to the Annual Meeting being in that District.

That there be a Committee appointed to meet quarterly, in whose hands shall rest the government of the Order, to consist of one deputy from each District in the Unity; and that five Deputies form a quorum, with power to act.

That the Officers of the Order preside at these meetings" . . . the C.S. to give a casting vote.

A number of other propositions provided for the detailed government and procedure of such Executive Committee, with power to discharge officers who failed to act within the laws of the Order.

Further—"that the officers be chosen out of the three nearest Districts to where the A.M.C. is to be held . . . and chosen by the Annual Meeting!"

WELSH and IRISH CHIEFS



W. J. Gwynne, 1904



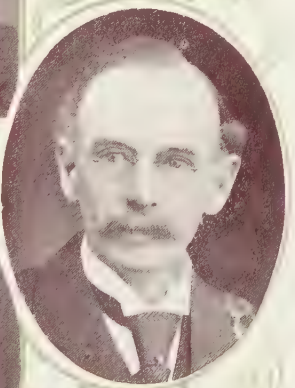
J. E. Gwynne, 1904



W. J. Gwynne, 1904



W. J. Gwynne, 1925



W. J. Gwynne, 1904



S. R. Marsh, 1920

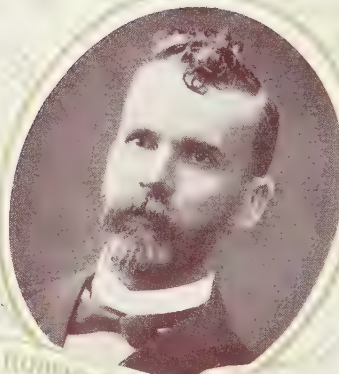


David Jones, 1908

CHIEF SHEPHERDS



THEODORE EVANS, 1896



T. EDMUND GREEN, 1896



EMMA GREEN, 1897



E. H. GANTSHY, 1900



R. WALDNER, 1900

As there was no account of debates conveyed in the annual reports of those early days, we cannot say just in what manner these all-important propositions were disposed of. A blow was evidently intended to be aimed at the Executive Authority of the Ashton District; but, as the District was not superseded, and the propositions were "not entertained," it is a fair assumption that a compromise was effected in the resolution which was virtually a censure upon the judgment of the Ashton District. This was a reversal of its decision in regard to C.S. Bowers. The resolution read as follows:—

"That George Bowers be reinstated into his Lodge again by paying up all arrears to the time of his expulsion (if any), and that the Ashton District pay him the sum of £1 ls. for expenses, and that he receive the honour of P.C.S."

There was a further noteworthy resolution (in view of the fact that the Head of Order District had always met on Sundays) whereby it was enacted—

"That if any Lodge or District shall hold any meeting to transact business on Sundays (except funeral business), it shall be fined in the sum of £2 2s. for each offence; the fine to go to the General Fund of the Order."

Bro. D. Scott, P.M. and Cor. Sec. of Ossett, introduced the two verses read on the introduction of a candidate for membership, which were accepted, as follows:—

"Friends, be faithful, true and just,
And in the Shepherds' cause to trust;
Be faithful both in heart and mind,
And friendship with us you will find.

For it's a pleasant sight to see
Shepherds join in sweet unity;
And it's more pleasing for to see
Shepherds all faithful, kind and free!"

Owing to the growth of membership, the law as to representation was amended from one delegate to every three Lodges to one for every five Lodges. The Lodges now numbered 164 and the membership 5,908.

At the subsequent Ashton District Meeting, on April 2nd, no reference was made to the Bowers incident, nor to the various propositions challenging the Executive Authority. P.C.S. Wm. Shaw was elected (for the second time) to act as C.S. and P.M. Knowland as D.C.S.

June was a momentous month. A swift fate deprived the Order (as well as Ashton District) of its Cor. Sec. by the death on the 14th of the month of Jesse Tinker, at the early age of 31 years. At the Quarterly Meeting on June 18th, P.C.S. Gibson was appointed to act as Secretary to the District in the emergency. As a token of respect to the late Bro. Tinker it was agreed to "move in procession" from the Zionite Lodge to the Methodist New Connexion Chapel at Stalybridge in the afternoon of Sunday, June 25th, each member to "wear nothing but a rosette, a black ribbon and white gloves." It was also resolved that each Lodge "be adorned" in mourning for six months.

At the same meeting a further resolution was passed illustrating the use to which the "Minstrel's" harp was put—not to emit music, but to give practical solace and help:—

"That the harp go round the room on behalf of Bro. T——, of the Eastern Star Lodge, who was suffering under very great affliction and distress."

The Harp went round accordingly and collected 12s. 10d.

In the Quarterly Report issued on June 30th, quaint reference was made to the loss of the "much respected and lamented Bro. Jesse Tinker, with evident application to his youth and sudden demise. The Officers enjoined—

"It is, therefore, brethren, of the greatest importance that we should all so order our conversation in the world that we may live when we are dead—live in the warm affections of our brethren and in the general esteem of mankind."

Then follows a curiously constructed paragraph:—

"Those who would have friendship confined to the narrowest compass may have notions of it truly sublime; yet a number, if practicable, may be highly useful. From a number we may expect one to be eminently qualified for one purpose and the next for another. The offices of Brotherhood are various; to direct our choice—to rectify our mistakes—sustain us under afflictions—moderate our joys—and calm our sorrows."

"A friend is worth all hazard we can run.

Poor is the friendless master of a world;

A world in purchase for a friend is gain."—*Young*.

The officers intimated that they had appointed P.M. Thomas Frith, of the "Rising Spring" Lodge, to act as Cor. Sec. pending a special meeting of Districts.

The next Quarterly Report (September 30th) stated that the special meeting was held at Rochdale on August 21st. The chief business seems to have been to choose a design for the Surances to be printed from a plate.

The first meeting of the Ashton District held on a Saturday (instead of Sunday) took place on October 14th, 1837.

The twelfth annual meeting was held at Oldham, Easter Monday and Tuesday, 1838. The business was chiefly to deal with appeals and disputes, the sanction of Districts, an appeal from Leeds for assistance owing to excessive sickness claims, etc., and the granting of £3 to the widow of the late Cor. Sec. Jesse Tinker. Swords were to be done away with and Guardians provided with the more peaceful crook. No District in future to be allowed to be formed with less than three Lodges unless more than five miles from the head of the District. Thomas Frith was duly appointed Secretary to the Order. A full programme, but, on the whole, a prosaic gathering.

Pontefract, amongst others, gave two new Districts to the Order, namely, "Welcome Stranger" Lodge at Sheffield, sanctioned by the Annual Meeting, and on the following day—April 18th—"Friendly Fountain," the Mother Lodge of Wisbech Unity, established at the Old Bell, Wisbech, through the instrumentality of Capt. W. Atkinson, of Pontefract.

The Quarterly Meeting, on April 21st, elected P.D.C.S. Schofield as C.S. and Prov. C.S. Smith, D.C.S. The Quarterly Report of the Order on June 30th, after reference to various recalcitrant Lodges, one of which treated the Order delegates "with disdain" and another being "obstinate," delivered a homily on the "cultivation of peace."

THE TWELFTH ANNIVERSARY.

On Christmas Day this year, there was a procession in commemoration of the Twelfth Anniversary of the Order, this being a magic number, and of the Twelve Founders eleven were present. The absentee was James Canan (deceased). The official account is given in the Quarterly Report of December 30th, written by Cor. Sec. Thomas Frith. It is descriptive and quaintly interesting as a record of the times:—

" We are happy to inform you that when we met at Bro. Scholfield's on the 25th, according to arrangement, everything seemed full of life and vigour, each taking the other by the hand of friendship; the morning was most beautiful and we had a very fine day; there was about four hundred walked in procession, everyone of whom behaved in a most respectable manner, not the least symptom of intoxication was seen upon any one. The procession was headed by the Shepherds' Band (who had previously ornamented their drums with the Shepherds' Coat of Arms); next was the original Surance, supported on each side by two small crooks; then the Founders and other Brothers; then another Surance, supported as above; next the Officers of the Order, the Secretary holding in his hand a Roll of Parchment with the Colours of the Order; these were followed by a number of Brothers from different Lodges; then came another Surance, supported as before, followed by the officers of the District and our Worthy Treasurer, the Secretary carrying the same emblem as the Secretary of the Order; then followed the remaining part, followed up by a few Outside Guardians, wearing their big Hats and Coats; this was all the regalia that was worn, only lambskin Aprons and White Gloves; suffice it to say that the procession was conducted in that manner worthy the name it bears. Here I give the names."

Then followed the names of the eleven Founders who walked in the procession.

[NOTE.—We are enabled to give an illustration of the early Shepherds' processional costume of "big hats and coats" from the photograph of a group of prize-winners in a carnival at Sandbach, June, 1925 (see first art page). This was sent by Bro. W. Booth, Secretary, "Poor Man's Friend" Lodge. The garments had been borrowed from Alsager and Talke. The Secretaries of those Lodges—Bros. E. Rathbone (Lodge 1437, Alsager) and W. Edwards (Lodge 928, Talke), informed us in the first case that the costumes were "bought from Tutill's, at Manchester, about 50 years ago," and, in regard to Talke, that "the members responsible for obtaining the dress had passed away," but it had been used for over 40 years to his (the Secretary's) knowledge. There is no doubt that this costume is a replica of the original "big hats and coats" referred to in the account of a procession on the twelfth anniversary of the Society's formation.]

In appointing delegates at the January meeting to attend the A.M.C. it was agreed that they should be paid £1 each and 6d. per mile travelling expenses (one way), evidence of the costliness of travel at that time. In the Quarterly Report issued March 30th, 1839, it was reported that there was to be published

quarterly, price sixpence, the "Shepherds' Communicant," devoted to the dissemination of practical knowledge, moral excellence and religion. It would be sold by Secretaries of Districts, and Lodge Secretaries would receive them along with the Quarterly Reports, with an allowance for their trouble. Orders were to be sent through the Secretary of the Order, and the pages would be open for all communications connected with the Order.

Wakefield was the scene of the Annual Meeting in 1839. The address by C.S. John Schofield was printed. It was chiefly a homily on conduct and manners. Two days later (April 4th) the Ashton District Quarterly Meeting was held, D.S.C. Smith being appointed C.S. and P.M. Davis D.C.S. The July meeting was again held on Sunday, the law having been changed to permit of this.

The A.M.C. at Pontefract on April 20th and 21st, 1840, was concerned largely with appeals and routine business as to formation of new Districts. It was agreed to appoint a Treasurer for and by the Head of Order. Also that the A.M.C. "be holden in each and every District that it has not yet been held in, and then return to No. 1, if the said Districts think proper to have it." Further, "that the Magazine be still published, and that the surplus money be appropriated to a widow and orphan fund, and the benefits arising from it be appropriated to the widows and orphans of those who subscribe to the same." P.M. William Hall, of No. 1 Lodge, was elected Cor. Sec. for the next twelve months. There were at this time 225 Lodges with 7,667 members.

The legislation by the A.M.C. held at Colne in 1841 was colourless and of a negative character. It was decided that the Order gathering should, in future, be referred to as the "Annual Meeting," and not "A.M.C." There were reported to be 242 Lodges with 9,524 members.

PRE-VISION OF GRADUATED PAYMENTS.

Pontefract, one of the "live" Districts of the Order, this year propounded a very ambitious scheme, which, although it was rejected, revealed a development of the insurance idea far beyond the modest vision of the early Shepherds. There were advanced, even prophetic, minds abroad at Pontefract 86 years ago, and the ideas expressed are worthy of a special note at this juncture in Shepherd history. The proposition must have been regarded as revolutionary. It certainly had wisdom in it, complex and fearful as it would appear to many. In part the proposal would be far from meeting the mind of Shepherds even to-day, when a democratic right of control is jealously guarded, while the trend of development seems at times to challenge old prerogatives. The problem now being solved is how to consolidate and safeguard without losing the precious principles of mutuality in benefits and independence of local action along with collective control. It is a puzzling problem, but not beyond the wit of modern Friendly Society minds to solve.

The Pontefract proposal would have had a tremendous influence upon the financial fortunes of the Order in one respect. Secessions,

painful emasculations, and disastrous breaking-up of Districts might have been avoided. Graduated scales did not come into compulsory operation until nearly forty years later. Had this one portion of the Pontefract proposed reform been accepted, the Order would possibly have double its present wonderful membership in the retention of vanished branches alone.

The scheme in 1841 was to rescind the whole of the existing rules and regulations of the Order—to scrap them—and to formulate a new code of rules based upon the principle of comparative payment according to different ages from 14 to 50 years. Had the proposal stopped there, it is possible more amiable consideration might have been given to it than it received at the time, and this particular financial reform achieved before prejudices had grown to an unbreakable strength.

The proposition, however, embodied also a consolidation of the whole of the Lodge and District funds, to be available for the use of the entire Society. Even to-day, the Order has not advanced in centralisation at all, beyond compassionate consideration in the special levies for the relief of distressed members and branches. There are also semi-centralised funeral funds in Districts, the consolidation and strengthening of small memberships, and a growing disposition to centralise sickness benefits in local areas. But, with all, independence in the control of government and funds is as fiercely fought for as ever it was, with due regard to a mutual reinsurance of risks to make the benefits secure.

The Pontefract idea was admirable, if not in every way justified by the immature experience of 14 years' elementary working. It was assumed that each member's contribution would secure all claims and prevent insolvency. Only actuarial experience could prove that, and the remedy when necessary could be applied.

Registration was also advocated, another pre-vision of the laws to come. A standardised system of bookkeeping was to be adopted, so that the financial position of the Society could always be ascertained, clearly an evidence of the actuarial mind.

By the scheme sickness benefits were to be secured in varying amounts (according to payments) from 2s. to 21s. per week, old age benefits from 5s. to £2 per month, funeral benefit up to £20, children's endowments from £10 to £100. Benefits were to include medical attendance and medicine in sickness, and protection to members, wives, widows and children should there be any attempt at fraudulent dissolution of the Society. In other words, protection of the loyal members.

Without considering its desirability in every detail, this scheme was the most comprehensive and statesmanlike proposal that had been propounded up to that stage of the Society's existence. The pity was that men of such calibre and practical foresight should afterwards become lost to the Society as a collective body.

At the Ashton District Quarterly Meeting in April of 1841, P.M. William Thorpe (Bethesda Lodge) was appointed C.S. and P.P.C.S. Samuel Adams D.C.S. The meetings were again changed from Sunday to Saturday, and even Sunday lectures were prohibited

as being a breach of the law that no business should be transacted on Sundays. A curious provision was made in regard to the Ashton District funerals, to the effect that no funeral money be paid unless the Stewards had seen the corpse and brought a certificate signed by the W.M., D.M. and Secretary, backed with the signature of either the husband, wife, parents, or other relative of the deceased. After being satisfied with such collective testimony the Treasurer might pay over the funeral money.

In 1842 the Annual Meeting was held at Bramley, C.S. William Thorpe presiding. The business was largely routine. William Hall was re-elected Cor. Sec. after a committee of fourteen had examined his accounts and declared themselves "very satisfied." The Lodges numbered 243 and the members 9,536.

The Quarterly Meeting in April decided to have a procession on Whit Sunday, and this duly took place in similar form to previous like events, members wearing aprons, crooks and medals. It was also an arduous day's work, beginning at 9 o'clock, the walk starting at Ashton and ending at Manchester. P.M. Smith, of Abraham Lodge, was elected C.S., and P.C. Hawes, Good Intent Lodge, D.C.S. On June 11th a special meeting was held to investigate some delinquencies by the past Cor. Sec. Frith, and this resolved itself into a judgment that he had been guilty of a "gross abuse of confidence reposed in him" by "abstracting the sum of sixpence for each seal" purchased for the Order. At the Quarterly Meeting a month later he was expelled from the Society.

So we arrived at the Annual Meeting, in 1843, at Bury, when 37 Districts, 284 Lodges, and 9,892 members were represented. C.S. George Smith presided. Leeds proposed to remove the Head of Order from the Ashton District to another, at the will of the Annual Meeting, but the suggestion was rejected. The officers of the Order were empowered to open a Lodge in Dublin, if they were satisfied after corresponding with the individual who made the application, all reasonable expenses to be paid, but only one officer to attend. This project afterwards fell through, owing to the unsettled state of the country. William Hall was again elected Cor. Sec.

The subsequent Quarterly Meeting appointed P.P.C.S. William Bardsley, Abraham Lodge, C.S., and P.D.C.S. John Taylor, Good Intent, D.C.S.

RIGHT TO SELF-GOVERNMENT.

The A.M. at Hull, in 1844, decided "that no magistrate, lawyer, or other civil officer acting under Government, shall be allowed to attend any Committee of the Order, either to take notes or to plead for any party, and any party introducing such person to be fined one pound one shilling." This was to reserve all right of governing the Society to its own members and officers, and prevent the creeping in of legal control.

The returns showed 277 Lodges and 9,882 members, Ossett being the largest District with 25 Lodges and 1,001 members, while

Ashton fell to second place with the same number of Lodges and 797 members. The Leeds proposition to remove the Head of Order again failed.

Pontefract, the third largest District at this time, presented a compassionate proposal, in the spirit that prompted the pre-vision of graduated payments, whereby members disabled for life should be granted an annuity, to be met by a levy upon the whole membership. Opinion, however, was not sufficiently advanced to accept this. For the second time a Pontefract proposition for the establishment of an Order Magazine was negatived. At the Quarterly Meeting four days later, Samuel Adams was elected C.S. and Orlando Hague D.C.S.

In October the Ashton District developed the idea of a Magazine by framing a series of propositions for its establishment under the title of the "Ancient Shepherds' Magazine," of 32 8vo pages, with "original and select matter," to be sold at 4½d. This was to be published under the direction of an Editor, Secretary and Committee of Management of five, to be elected by the officers of the Order and of the District, out of the members residing within four miles of the Head of the District in which the Magazine was printed. The profits (if any) as was the case with the "Shepherds' Communicant," were to be devoted to a widow and orphans fund apportioned to Districts according to the number of Magazines sold.

At Malton, in 1845, the A.M. duly agreed to the proposal, the Magazine to be sold at the lowest possible price after clearing expenses. Further, no other publication of like character was allowed to be published in the Order, members and Lodges alike breaking this law to be punished by penalties. Nevertheless, the printer was to be permitted to publish "The Ancient Shepherds' Almanack" for his own benefit. At this meeting it was enacted that all members of the Order who belonged to the Society of Friends, should have "liberty to keep their hats on." This was in deference to Past Chief Chadwick, who was a member of that Society. It was again attempted to remove the Head of Order, the proposition on this occasion coming from Pontefract, but without avail.

The proposal was repeated and rejected year after year.

At the subsequent Quarterly Meeting, P.P.C.S. Lot Walker was elected C.S. and P.D. Prov. C.S. Henry Hall D.C.S.

PROBLEM OF TRAVEL TO THE A.M.

In 1926, when the facilities for travel to an A.M.C. as far apart as Inverness in the North of Scotland and Swansea in South Wales, are such as to present no abnormal difficulty, beyond the arduousness of the journey, it is interesting to compare this with the situation when the A.M. was held at Wisbech, Cambridgeshire, in 1846. This would be best realised by quoting the statement issued by Bro. Ephraim Bodger, Prov. Cor. Sec. for Wisbech, in September, 1845, and which afforded delegates six months to digest the information and make their plans. We are unable to find space

for the full document, but it traverses in detail the methods and stages of travel from different parts of the Kingdom to Wisbech—by rail, coach, omnibus, sea coast sailing, etc., with starting times, distances, various stages and their linking up, costs, etc. After pointing out all the difficulties, uncertainties and possibilities, the Cor. Sec. concluded: "And I hope no one will repent that he ever came to visit Wisbech District."

At a special meeting held on April 4th, 1846, D.C.S. Hall having been allowed to retire from office, P.C.S. William Thorp, Bethesda Lodge, was appointed to act in his stead. The A.M. at Wisbech followed on April 13th and 14th, C.S. Lot Walker presiding.

Bro. W. Hall was again elected Cor. Sec., his remuneration now to be 12s. per District per year. As the returns showed 42 delegates, representing 36 Districts, with 327 Lodges and 114,169 members, the salary would work out at £21 12s., increasing annually with the increasing number of Districts.

It was also agreed that the words "Crimson, Green and Charitable" be substituted by "First, Second and Third Degree." Liberty was given to the Lodges in Manchester to form a District apart from Ashton. "Nottingham Castle" Lodge, however, stood out, and elected to remain with Ashton, the explanation being accepted later by the Head of Order District as satisfactory. James Heap was elected C.S. and Samuel Bridge D.C.S. The Ancient Shepherds' Juvenile Burial Society at this time numbered 562 members.

DRASTIC CHANGES PROPOSED.

The A.M. at Stalybridge, in 1847, was notable for some drastic changes in government proposed by Pontefract. On this occasion there were 38 Districts represented, 353 Lodges and 15,136 members.

The first proposal by Pontefract was to the effect that the officers of the Order be elected at the Annual Meeting and not by Ashton District, any District to be allowed to nominate the C.S. and D.C.S. and any Lodge (not more than three miles from Ashton Town Hall) the Cor. Sec., the officers to meet monthly at Ashton. This straight blow aimed at Ashton Authority was again negated.

A second proposition that, as a prerogative attached to their offices, the C.S. and D.C.S. should be entitled to attend the Annual Meeting as delegates representing their District, was carried.

It was further agreed, on the initiative of the same District, that the Annual Meeting should be presided over by a Chairman elected by the delegates out of their own body. Being present as delegates, it would be possible for the two Chief Officers to be elected to the presidential chairs, but the anomalous position was created that whereas they would conduct the business throughout the year they could not preside at the A.M. by virtue of their office.

Further amendments of general law proposed to place the representative basis of membership upon a sliding scale, but this was met by a modification of the 38th General Law by the elimination of the word "above."

A suggestion that the Annual Meeting be held on the first Monday in July was negatived. Many other propositions for change of procedure were made, mostly rejected, and a few accepted in modified form, but none were of such vital moment as the before-mentioned paragraphs.

The Cambridge District was allowed to be formed out of Wisbech District. Subsequently, the Ashton District appointed D.C.S. Samuel Bridge as C.S. and P.P.C.S. James Knott D.C.S.

In accordance with the decision of the 21st A.M., the Annual Meeting held at South Elmsall in 1848 was presided over by William Thornton, elected from the delegates. Ashton District sought to rescind this arrangement, but failed. The right of the C.S. and D.C.S. to sit as delegates, intended as a supplement to the more vital resolution, was, however, taken away. It was agreed that the officers should meet monthly, or oftener, if required. It was also decided that the Almanac should become the property of the Order, the same as the "Magazine." The number of delegates was 62, representing 38 Districts, 368 Lodges and 15,155 members. At the Ashton Quarterly Meeting D.C.S. James Knott (Abel Lodge) was elected C.S. and Jabez Hollingworth (Shepherds' Increase) D.C.S.

SECESSION OF WISBECH DISTRICT.

The year 1848 was signalised by the most unfortunate and disastrous division in the ranks of Shepherdry that had occurred within the twenty-two years of its existence. The Society had prospered and increased, even through times of dire stress and tribulation in regard to the industrial and social conditions of the country. Unexpected trouble arose out of a proposal from Wisbech District to the Annual Meeting. It was sought to rescind the law which fined any District for not sending its full representation to an Annual Meeting. On this being rejected, the Wisbech representatives, led by Mr. W. P. Bays, were very wroth, but the latter was thanked at the close of the meeting (of which he was minute Secretary) "for his services during this meeting and ever since he has been a member of the Order," and no action of a serious character was anticipated.

The object of the Wisbech brethren, in seeking to lessen the expense to Districts, was laudable enough, but the only possible procedure for "loyal members" was to accept the verdict against them until they had succeeded in winning a majority to their way of thinking. That could be the only safe and democratic way of carrying on the government of any collective organisation. A "bombshell" was intimated in the September Quarterly Report through the following paragraph, signed by the Order Officers:—

"We are sorry to announce the suspension of Wisbech District, with the exception of Shepherds of Goshen Lodge and the Dacre Lodge, who are forming themselves into a District of the Ashton Unity; also Cambridge District has seceded, with the exception of Royal Alfred and Sons of David Lodges, who still remain in the Ashton Unity."

Mr. Bays, an honorary member, who had worked loyally and assiduously for the extension of the Order in the Eastern Counties,

appeared to take the rebuff to Wisbech at the A.M. more seriously than was necessary, but his own explanation revealed a further cause of discontent on the part of honorary members, of whom there were many in the Wisbech area. He was a man of brains and energy, power of speech and initiative, and being a capable and worthy Shepherd in every respect felt that he and other honorary members should have the same privilege of voting upon questions of finance in the Order as the benefit members. They could, of course, have joined as benefit members, without accepting benefits, in many cases, but probably considered it would be *infra dig.* to do so. Notwithstanding his sincerity and keen interest in the work of Shepherdry, Mr. Bays appears to have lost sight of the vital principle, and led others off on the same mistaken course. To have changed the law to meet his wishes in this respect would have opened the way to a usurpation of government by the votes of what may be termed an "aristocratic membership," mostly non-active and non-workers in the cause. It was a pity such a difference of opinion should have arisen, and all the more regretful that experience had not taught that rebellion and schism were entirely subversive of the principle of majority rule in a representative assembly.

The services of Mr. Bays and others were a great loss to the Order, but it is satisfactory to know that they continued with the same, if not increased zeal, to further the principles associated with Shepherdry as a separate Unity. The number of seceding members was 1,384, a strong section out of a total of little more than 15,000.

The separation proved to be a prolonged one, and it was not until 1897, the lapse of half-a-century, that the Ashton Unity again visited Wisbech to hold its Annual Conference there. This was due to the fact that in 1888 the two Unities became federated and agreed to work side by side. Delegates from each attended the Conferences of the other. A new generation reigned in Shepherdry, and the old secessionists had practically passed away. Leaders had arisen who were more disposed to close a breach which had proved to be relatively futile; for, even after forty years, whilst starting off with a membership of between 1,300 and 1,400, and rapidly increasing in the earlier stages, it had now reached only a total of about 12,000. On the other hand, Ashton Unity, left in 1848 with only 13,921 members, had, in 1888, reached the handsome total of 67,662 adults, with some returns omitted which were calculated to have brought the number up to well over 71,000 and 10,940 juveniles.

"Federation" was the magic word, and in 1897 a fine welcome to the A.M.C. was given at Wisbech. It was not until four years later, however, that the smaller Unity decided unanimously to return to the Order of its fathers. The accomplished fact of amalgamation was witnessed at the Cardiff A.M.C. in 1902, when delegates from East Anglia attended to take part in the deliberations of a unified Society.

We have refrained from dwelling in detail upon the controversial, and even angry, statements published in regard to the Wisbech

secession, and a charge from Yorkshire of wrong doing by the Ashton District. The fact of the breach and its closing again, after many years, the healing of old sores and the desire for fraternal progress once more, seems to us an ample statement at this stage of our historical review. Whatever may have been the provocation and bitter feelings displayed, it is sufficient to show that a mistake was made, and we need quote only one sentence from the Ashton District protest in support of this:—

“If every District that cannot obtain all its wishes at the Annual Meetings were to follow the example of Wisbech, all may easily perceive that our beloved Order would soon be shattered to fragments, and the good it is calculated to effect in the world be for ever prevented.”

Those were wise words. In later years still greater secessions have been threatened on similar grounds, but wisdom and common sense, based upon experience, have, in the end, prevailed, and disaster oftentimes averted.

THE RESTORATION OF CHIEFS.

It will be profitable to return to the Annual Meeting supervening upon the secession of 1848. This was held at Scarborough on Easter Monday and Tuesday, April 9th and 10th, 1849. P.P.C.S. James Smith, of Rochdale, was appointed Chairman. A great crop of propositions was sent up through the December Report. These bore largely upon the anomalous position of the C.S. and D.C.S. in being deposed from the presidency of the Annual Meetings. Ashton, Head the of Order District, came forward with resolutions to rescind the previous laws emanating from Pontefract, and to permit of the Chief Officers occupying the high chairs at the A.M. The District further proposed to relinquish the prerogative, which it had hitherto held, of electing the C.S. and D.C.S., and to leave these decisions to the Annual Meeting. Manchester presented a proposition to the same effect, but adding that the A.M. should still choose the Officers out of the Ashton District.

Pontefract stood by the terms of its triumph of two years ago, and restored the prerogative of the C.S. and D.C.S. by virtue of their offices, to attend as delegates from their District. It also proposed that the officers be elected at the A.M. from nominations by any District. Further, that District officers should be allowed to attend the monthly meetings of the officers of the Order and to have a joint vote.

Leeds came forward with a proposal that the three officers should be chosen by the District in which the A.M. was held and from that District. Also that the Conference should be held on alternate Easter Mondays, in other words, that it should be a biennial gathering.

Hull proposed that the A.M. should elect the towns and county in which the Head of Order and A.M. should be held, the officers to be elected from that town, and the C.S. to preside. Rochdale also proposed that the C.S. and D.C.S. should preside, any District to be allowed to nominate candidates for such offices.

The net result of this shoal of proposed resolutions was that the C.S. and D.C.S. were restored to the presidency of the Annual Meetings ; also the second proposition of Manchester, that these officers and the Cor. Sec. be appointed by the A.M. out of Ashton District, was agreed to. The Pontefract proposals were negatived or withdrawn. Other District proposals bearing upon the same questions shared a like fate.

A proposal from Langtoft District dealing with representation was accepted, namely, " That each District be represented at the A.M. according to the number of members, that is to say, each District under 250 members to send one delegate ; if 250 and under 500, to be optional whether they send one or two ; if 500 and under 750, whether they send two or three, and so on in proportion. Here was an amendment of the law which would have gone far to meet the Wisbech demand at the previous A.M. The returns showed 41 Districts, 327 Lodges and 13,921 members.

On the 10th April Ashton District appointed the C.S. and D.C.S. for the last time, in the persons of Prov. C.S. James Farron and Prov. Cor. Sec. Thomas Frith.

There appeared to have been aroused a much livelier interest in the Annual Meeting than usual, for, after all the upset of secession, and other rumblings of discontent, the changes and attempted changes in governmental control and procedure, there was a keen competition among Districts as to which should have the A.M. of 1850 in their midst. Invitations had been sent in by no less than eight Districts, namely, Hull, Mossley, Yeadon, Selby, Kirkburton, Tideswell, New Mills and Bolton. It was decided to go to Bolton.

Consequently, Easter Monday and Tuesday, in 1850, found the delegates assembled at Bolton under the presidency of C.S. James Farron. There were 41 Districts represented and 337 Lodges with 14,637 members. After the transaction of a long programme of miscellaneous business, Thomas Frith was duly elevated to the office of C.S. and Robert Willis elected D.C.S. It was a somewhat uneventful meeting except for the number of propositions that were rejected, especially such as were aimed at the authority of Ashton District. These had a serious sequel.

ANOTHER CONVULSION AND RUPTURE.

The disastrous division of membership of 1848 was repeated, and even exceeded, in 1850. On this occasion the convulsion occurred in Yorkshire, headed by Pontefract, and appears to have been based upon nothing more than chagrin at the non-acceptance of proposed changes in laws and administration. The lesson of brotherly unity had not yet been fully learned, nor the term "loyal" as an appellation to the title of the Order fully justified, at least by the malcontents. The first Quarterly Report (after the Annual Meeting) issued by the Officers, on June 29th, contained the following address :—

" RESPECTED BRETHREN,—In laying before you our first report after the Annual Meeting, we are sorry to say that, in justice to ourselves and the Order, we are compelled to expel some whom we have highly esteemed,

and who have been for many years an honour to our beloved Order. The last Annual Meeting, not (being) according to their wishes on one particular point—they took upon themselves to circulate a document calling a public meeting in the City of York; the object being to shake, if not to destroy, the Ashton Unity. We say ‘themselves,’ because, from the time the business closed at Bolton, and the date of their circular, they had not the opportunity of calling the Lodges and Districts together. We are sorry, because we believe that union is strength—and the wider our Order extends the better it will be for each District—each Lodge—and every Member. The object of our opponents seems to be that of being crowned with the honours of the Order. The different Districts have an eye to that, and, perhaps, many other changes that might be made, when the proper time comes for making these changes. But the wise and prudent never make changes for the sake of change; one great argument they make use of is the enormous expense. The fact is, that it had not cost 2½d. each member for the last five years. The expense of the District is not the expense of the Order, and, if the Order must extend, each District ought to have the A.M., and see that everything is carried on in a proper manner. We feel sorry for those of our friends who have been misled, however, (and) we promise the protection of the Order to one and all of them, providing they have not violated any rule of the Order, and their communications come through the hands of a District Secretary, such District being in compliance with the Ashton Unity. Brethren, in all our dealings in society, let us lose sight of self and selfish motives, let us act and work for the good of each other: so shall we show to the world at large that we are worthy of belonging to a society the main object of which is the happiness and prosperity of all its members. Much more might be said, but let this suffice; our Order is based upon great principles and its progress cannot be stopped; it must and will spread in spite of all opposition.”

The expelled members, whose names were published, numbered thirteen in Leeds District, eleven in Pontefract, five in Wakefield and five in Hull. As a result the whole of the Lodges in Pontefract and Wakefield Districts and seven out of fourteen in Leeds seceded. Seven Leeds Lodges remained loyal to the Unity. The actual losses were Pontefract 16 Lodges, with 648 members, Wakefield 16 Lodges with 692 members, and Leeds seven Lodges with 239—in all 1,579 members.

Fourteen days later, the Ashton District also issued a lengthy address with their report of the July meeting. It referred to the “unhappy discussions” which had “agitated our venerable Order,” and were calculated to “sap its most sacred foundation and frustrate those great objects of charity for which it was originally intended.” The excuse put forward in the two great secessions (Wisbech and Yorkshire) was to “evade the ignorance and despotism of the Ashton District.” The Committee then entered upon a vindication in answer to such a “dishonourable charge,” adding “we blush when we think of Wisbech and we shame when we think of York.” The blush and shame was not on account of themselves, but for the “calumniation and intolerant ones of ignorant Districts.” Then the main cause of the discord was admitted to be in “the exclusive privilege” possessed by Ashton District of “nominating from their own District the members of the Executive Council.” They were now unwilling to have their “honour defamed by retaining so unprofitable a privilege.” There was much more disclaiming any desire to retain the seat of government except on the ground of economy.

At the October meeting Ashton District itself framed a proposition to the next A.M. in 1851. It was to rescind the Second Law as recently revised, and substitute a reading to the effect that the Society should be governed by a Chief, a Deputy Chief, Cor. Sec. and Treasurer, the two first mentioned to preside over the Annual Meetings; remunerated out of the General Funds of the Order, nominated and elected by the Delegates at the A.M., the seat of government to be made stationary (to save expense) in Ashton; and there were other provisos as to details in connection with the publication of a Quarterly Report, etc.

The December Report gave a lighter list of proposals than usual. In addition to the Ashton proposal already alluded to, various Lodges and Districts sent in nominations for the offices of C.S., D.C.S. and Cor. Sec., also for the place of the next A.M. The Annual Meeting was held at New Mills, April 21st and 22nd, 1851. It was decided to let well alone in regard to the revision of laws as to Chief Officers and the place of government, and no further controversy arose. Robert Willis, D.C.S., was duly elected C.S. and the Loyal Abel (Ashton) Lodge nomination of John Beardshall for D.C.S. was accepted. Owing to the 1850 secessions, the membership of the Unity after a quarter of a century's existence, was reduced to 13,991, there being 44 delegates, representing 37 districts and 290 Lodges.

It would appear that the differences a year ago had not had an adverse effect upon the progress of the Order. A spirit of recovery had set in, and the first Quarterly Report after the A.M. was heralded by a declaration that the Order was fast progressing, more Lodges being opened during the quarter than in any previous quarter. The great activity of members was referred to, the sacrifices made and the pedestrian feats achieved. As an instance, Hull had opened a Lodge in London, and other branches were established in Adlington (Chorley District), Manchester (two), Bradfield Green (Sandbach), Ashton, Dukinfield (Ashton), Brighouse (Halifax), York, St. Augustine's, Gloucestershire (Grimsby), Hyde (Stalybridge). This was an encouraging sign and proof of a good three months' work.

The story of progress was continued in September report, when nine other Lodges were reported as having been opened in Droylsden, Newton Heath, North Duffield, Whittle-le-Woods, Godley, Hulme End, Lambeth (London), again by Grimsby, and St. Helens. Again, in December, additional Lodges were announced at Preston, St. Helens, Ashton, Stockport, Sowerby, Heywood, Padfield, Stockport, Wigan and Bristol.

THE RISE OF BRISTOL DISTRICT.

As the last-mentioned branch—Bristol—subsequently became the largest District of Shepherds in England, and the largest in the Order until it was outstripped by Glasgow some years later, it will be opportune at this stage to make special reference thereto.

One day in the early part of 1851 a particularly picturesque parade of Foresters took place in Bristol. Its success and various attractive features were the "common talk" at social gatherings in the evening, and at the St. Augustine's Tavern, in Frogmore Street, a number of working men discussed the different societies with which they were associated. A shipwright named J. Archer, who hailed from Grimsby, stated that he belonged to the Shepherds' Society there, but, as he was now settled in Bristol, and Grimsby was so far away, he thought he would transfer to the Foresters. A Bristol man present said he also joined the Shepherds when working in Grimsby, but gave up his membership on returning to the home town.

Their companions began to inquire what kind of a Society the Shepherds were, as they had never heard or read of an Order of that name. Eventually the host, Mr. George Barry, asked "Why give up the Shepherds? Why not open a Lodge here?" He further offered to be a member and do his best to secure others. The Grimsby friend at once entered heartily into the project; wrote for information to the officers of Grimsby District; and, to make the story short, the "Lamb" Lodge (No. 594) was opened at St. Augustine's Tavern on the 23rd June, 1851, and officers for the first six months appointed. The initiation fee was fixed at 5s. Only a week had elapsed when a special meeting was held and the name changed to the "Loyal West of England" Lodge, so that the newly-born "Lamb" was speedily slain. Whether it was felt that the value of the Lodge had been enhanced by the more ambitious title we do not know, but the initiation fees were at once advanced on a sliding scale, namely, ages 18 to 30, 5s.; 30 to 35, 7s. 6d.; 35 to 38, 10s.; 39 to 40, 15s.

Competition, or rather, emulation, soon arose. A friend of the host named Sharpe, who kept the Railway Tavern, set about persuading prospective members to open a Lodge at his house, and on the 18th December, the same year, the "Shepherds' Glory" Lodge (No. 615) was inaugurated. Thus the baby, which was to mature into the Bristol District, was set upon its two feet. No fresh expansions were made for some time, probably because of the great expense of bringing the Grimsby officers down to Bristol. At the A.M. in 1855, Bro. James Griffiths, of the "West of England" Lodge, attended the Annual Meeting, held in Grimsby, at his own expense, to support an application to form a Bristol District. This was granted. The foregoing facts are extracted from a statement by the late Bro. Joseph J. Ellis, in 1885.

Bristol did not grow very fast at the outset. It was not until 1857 that the "Loyal Clarence" Lodge was opened; but, during the succeeding four years no less than nineteen Lodges were

inaugurated, some at Bath and Newport. To establish Lodges in town and country places became the order of the day.

In 1860 the membership was shown to be only 127. By the year 1875 the Lodges had increased to 94 with a membership of 6,074, and total accumulated funds of £17,383 14s. 9d. The record at the end of 1924 was 79 Lodges, 7,840 adults, 1,343 juveniles and 490 widows—total 9,677, with accumulated funds standing at £147,453, after paying out large sums in sickness and funeral benefits. The latter items are, for sickness benefits, £388,422 4s. 2d.; funerals, £114,536; total, £502,958 4s. 2d. It should be noted here that thirty years ago Bristol, Bath and Western Counties District numbered a membership of over 10,000 adults, but since then there has been a considerable decadence in adult membership. A new push is now being made which may lead to the recovery of lost ground.

Experience, the greatest of all teachers, showed the need of reserve funds. Some Lodges evinced signs of exhaustion through excessive sickness claims, and to assist these a District sickness fund was inaugurated in 1883, based upon quarterly levies from which grants were made. It proved to be of inestimable value. One great obstacle, particularly in rural Lodges, was holding too much money in Treasurer's hands and thus losing its earning value. It took great persuasion to get some of this into the Post Office, while mortgages on property were regarded with suspicion. One instance illustrated many. When it was decided to invest on a good mortgage security the trustees deemed the act to be suicidal. To prove it, they proceeded to commit suicide themselves by resigning their office. Education moved apace. The practice grew. In 1893 a District Investment fund was established, deposits of £10 and upwards being accepted at four per cent interest. The necessity of this fund may be graphically illustrated by the following:—

In 1881 the total Lodge assets amounted to £26,600, of which £18,720 was held in the Bank or Treasurer's hands. At the end of 1892, out of £42,170 funds, £17,892 was still under-invested. Repeated lectures proved efficacious, so that the record of 1924 showed out of £147,433 assets, only £6,876 was held in hand or at the Bank. In 1902 the fund was developed so that members could deposit from 1s. upwards. The District Secretary further recommended in 1891 that every Secretary should find security, and three years later the District had registered its own Guarantee Society. Thus, for a small annual premium, Lodges were secured against possible defalcations. Claims have been practically absent, so that the result is a good accumulation of funds to be dealt with on behalf of the District.

Another laudable undertaking was formulated by Bro. W. J. Coleman in the "Shepherds' Magazine" in 1871. The District meeting had been held in varying places, and his suggestion was that, as the most influential District in the Order, they should be up and doing in order to obtain a Shepherds' Hall. The members themselves were to supply the funds by taking up £1 shares in four calls of 5s. each. With £4,000 they could pay £1,500 for a site and

CHIEF SHEPHERDS



H. W. THOMPSON, 1907



H. W. THOMPSON, 1907



FRANK ANDREW, 1909



L. E. GENTRY, 1909

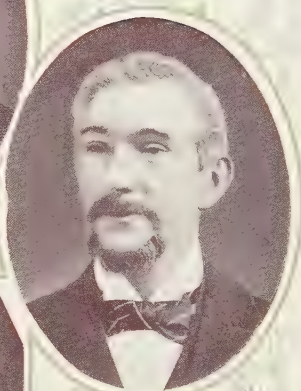


H. T. MARSH, 1909

ORDER SECRETARIES.



W. S. Fairfield,
Treas. 1891-94



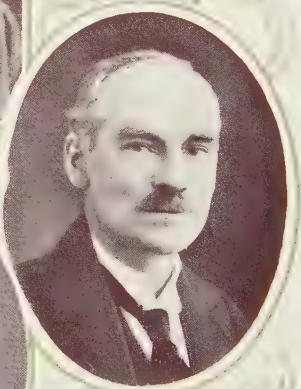
Daniel R. Kennedy



John J. Kennedy
Vice Secy.



A. E. Saunders,
Gen. Secy.



O. M. Brown,
Secy.



R. Kennedy, Asst. Secy.



John McNicol

buildings, £2,000 for the building and £500 for fittings. Among his suggestions for raising funds from its use were a reading room for which members would pay a penny per week—£200 a year; refreshment bar—£100; rents from Bristol Lodges—£40; penny readings, public meetings and entertainments were to add to the income. Seventeen years later, it was decided to purchase the ground and premises and erect the hall. At the end of 1889 this was accomplished and a banquet held to celebrate the event. Thirteen Lodges held mortgages for money invested at 4 per cent interest. Bro. Coleman's earlier estimate of cost was prophetic, for the £4,000 fell short of the requirements by only £165. Old Market Street, the site of the Shepherds' Hall, is a centre of growing value, so that the worth of the land alone is now equal to the total original outlay.

In December, 1888, there was established a Shepherds' Medical Institute, one of the first of the kind in the city, and this scheme emanated from a District meeting held at Wellington 18 months previous. Of the stalwarts who carried that project to a reality, P.C.S. Edward Sage, the first and present Secretary, alone remains. At the end of the first year there were attached 1,796 males, 364 wives and 374 children, in all 2,534 members, the ultimate record being 3,500. The membership was reduced by the operation of the State Insurance Act, but the efficiency of the Institute continues.

Amongst other marks of progress the District was in the forefront in connection with the inauguration of the "Good Shepherd" Lifeboat, Graduated Tables, Registration and Uniform Bookkeeping. On five occasions—1866, 1875, 1885, 1900 and 1921—it entertained the A.M.C., on the three latter occasions right royally. Bristol District has given the Order four Chief Shepherds of distinction, namely, Joseph J. Ellis, Edward Sage, Henry Charles Lavington and Edward Brindal; also the present General Secretary, A. J. E. Saunders. No less than 194 members died whilst serving with the Colours in the Great War, for whom £2,281 10s. was paid in claims. The members of the District also paid the contributions of all Service members to the extent of £3,082 9s. The most eminent member of the District was the late Past Chief J. J. Ellis, its earnest and talented Cor. Sec. He was succeeded by A. J. E. Saunders, and on the latter's appointment to the General Secretaryship of the Order, H. C. Lapham took up the reins, while Bro. A. E. Ellis, son of the late P.C.S. and Cor. Sec. is employed in the office, and to him we are indebted for a good deal of research to verify many of the foregoing particulars.

In regard to this office in the earlier stages of Bristol District, there was a remarkable sequence of secretaries. James Griffiths, who was instrumental in the foundation of the District, was the first Secretary. He was followed in 1859 by George Bradfield, who, two years later, was succeeded by Thomas Templar (1861); in 1863, J. Clark; 1864, John Brannan; 1865, B. G. Stride; 1866 to 1870, W. G. Baggaridge; 1871, James Pearce; 1872-3-4, J. Grimes; and 1875, Joseph J. Ellis, who settled down with the District for its first long spell of secretarial guidance.

A STURDY STEP FORWARD.

Having reviewed the origin of the Society and its chief events in the first quarter of a century of its moulding and progress, we may now continue the story of its somewhat chequered fortunes with less amplification of details.

The growth of the Order was relatively rapid at the outset, but the frequent displays of jealousy, by the more distant sections from Ashton, led to dissensions and secessions, which disastrously curtailed its progress in numbers, although there is no doubt as to the advantage gained in the bitter ways of experience. It was natural, if lamentable, that men of active mind and vision, having developed their branches into line with the largest, should become filled with an impetuous democratic desire to control and shape the fortunes of the Order of their adoption. It was more natural, and even excusable, that in the central area of Ashton, the cradle of Shepherdry, the parent of the society, the first and most ardent workers for its care and upbringing should hold fast to the privileges they had created, and be reluctant to share the control of the household with their grown-up children.

This is, and always has been, the way of human nature. The hasty are ever prone, in their young manhood, to rebel against the restraints of experience and caution, and transform the safety-walk of youth into a reckless race for power. Thus disaster is found by the way, only to be overcome, if with chastening losses. Happy the household in which love and loyalty abounding on the one hand, with consideration for and pride in the growing powers of offspring on the other, conduce to the happiness and prosperity of the family and the community.

The faults and discontent in the ranks of Shepherdry retarded the growth of the Order in the first twenty-five years, when the net roll-call was only about 14,000, but it was a chastened and experienced phalanx that was left. From now onwards, with the advent of Shepherdry to Bristol, the membership during the second quarter of a century was well-nigh quadrupled, towards which Bristol and the Western Counties contributed a distinctive share, and became, as already stated, the largest District in the country. This stage of the Order's growth led also right up to the introduction of Shepherdry into Scotland, where the hard-headed and virile natives seized upon "a gey fine thing," and made of it, as shown in another place, the dominant Friendly Society of the north country.

FURTHER STEPPING STONES.

The A.M. of 1852 was held at Holmfirth under the presidency of Robert Willis, C.S. The chief changes proposed were that the C.S., D.C.S. and the Cor. Sec. should be chosen out of the District where the A.M. was held; to change the A.M. from Easter to Whitsuntide; to enrol the Society under the last Act of Parliament (left over to the next A.M.). All the other propositions were withdrawn. Bro. John Beardshall was elected C.S. and James Wilde, "Flower de Luce" Lodge, D.C.S., the latter out of four nominations. There

were 55 delegates, representing 37 Districts and 14,540 members. In commemoration of his having served as Treasurer of "Abel" Lodge for 25 years, Bro. Thomas Scholfield was presented with a silver snuff box on the 26th of June.

Mossley was the scene of the A.M. in 1853, C.S. John Beardshall presiding. Manchester was successful in carrying its proposals to change the date of the A.M. from Easter to Whitsuntide, and the practice has prevailed ever since. James Wild was passed to the chair of the Chief, and P.D.C.S. Edwin Leigh elected D.C.S.

The Cor. Sec., William Hall, after thirteen years' service, died on July 30th, at the comparatively early age of 54. On September 10th, Prov. Cor. Sec. Solomon Hampson was elected Cor. Sec. of the Order *pro tem*. Shepherdry was introduced into Montreal, North America, under the grandiose title of "Star of the Earth" Lodge. During the quarter ending September 30th nineteen new Lodges were opened, being the largest number in any one quarter since the Order was established. Again, in the December Report, eighteen new Lodges were reported, and again in March (1854) eleven Lodges.

In the March Report, the last Quarterly before the A.M. in 1854, the Officers of the Order referred to a Bill before the House of Commons, which it was thought would seriously affect the interests of Societies for the relief of the sick and the burial of the dead. The United Friendly Societies in different parts of the country had struggled strenuously against it, and a call was made for all Districts and Lodges to join in opposition to the further progress of the Bill. Notwithstanding this appeal, the question does not seem to have been discussed in any way at the A.M. In the September Report, however, the gloomy forebodings of the Officers seemed to have been either falsified, or the changes made in the Bill had been so drastic that the measure was transformed. The Officers were now able to address the membership in optimistic terms declaring the measure "to be the most important ever yet produced in Friendly Burial Societies and which seemed to be very acceptable."

A RECONCILIATION.

Beginning the new era of Whitsuntide meetings, the delegates to the A.M. in 1854 assembled at Manchester, on Monday and Tuesday, 5th and 6th June, under the presidency of C.S. James Wild. After the lapse of four years it would appear that some degree of reconciliation of seceded Yorkshire Shepherds had been effected, for the A.M. carried the following resolution:—

"It is recommended by this meeting that all Lodges belonging to the Yorkshire Unity have liberty given, should they wish to join the Ashton Unity, and the District they make application to agrees, to reopen them, and let them form themselves into the District they are in, and keep the same name as before, with the exception that all those members who were excluded by the Order are never to be readmitted again."

Orlando Hague was appointed C.S. and Isaac Chadwick D.C.S. The appointment of Solomon Hampson as Cor. Sec. was approved and continued. At a dinner provided by the Manchester District, the C.S. presented to Daniel Scott, Prov. C.S., a silver snuff box.

a portable writing desk and a purse containing £17 10s. 6d. for 25 years' service in taking the minutes of the A.M.

In modern times, and in the "middle age" of Shepherdry, harmony at Lodge meetings has been encouraged; but it is an indication of the serious way in which business was viewed at the Ashton District Quarterly, at least, when we find in the minutes of the October gathering the brief, unamplified and unadorned resolution—

"That a song be sung by P.M. Broadhurst at nine o'clock."

It may be that the Past Master was a vocalist of special talent, but the report does not include any indication as to whether the effort at nine o'clock was a success, duly appreciated, or otherwise.

In 1855 the A.M. was held at Grimsby. Orlando Hague, C.S., presided. Isaac Chadwick was duly elevated to the Chiefship and P.P.C.S. Solomon Furness elected D.C.S. Hitherto it had been permissible for any five members to form a Lodge to start with, and even one or two Lodges, as was the case with Bristol, being so far away from Grimsby, were allowed to take up the independent status of a District. The wisdom of this was seen where an early progress in membership followed in one case, or where there was a multiplication of branches in the other. But the "small Lodge" problem arose at this early date. It has caused great heart-burning in modern times, but the wisdom of amalgamation in such cases was recognised between sixty and seventy years ago. Thus we find in the September Quarterly Report, of 1855, the following paragraph:—

"We have several instances brought under our notice of two small Lodges amalgamating, or joining together, and we trust others will follow this example, as it is a step in the right direction; and, if it can be done comfortably, you will confer a great boon on yourselves and the stability of the Society to which you belong."

The A.M. was held at Selby in 1856, at Outwood in 1857, and at York in 1858. Eleven Lodges of the Royal Independent Shepherds, Blackburn, who made application through the Chorley District, were allowed to join and form the Blackburn District of the Ashton Unity. Also three Lodges of the Loyal Independent Shepherds, making application through Bolton District, were allowed to join and form the Darwen District of Ashton Unity. The 1859 A.M. was held at Glossop, of which gathering there was nothing of importance to report.

ANOTHER ASHTON PRIVILEGE GONE.

A.M., 1860, at Chorley. C.S. James Hamnett presided. Delegates 66, Districts 59, Lodges 944, members 23,477. There had been attempts made for many years to remove the Head of Order from Ashton, but without success. Always had this District retained also the privilege of the Chief Officers being chosen from the same area. This holding of a close preserve, as membership grew and Districts spread, was largely responsible for the discontent and secessions which periodically took place up to the year 1850.

The time had now arrived when opinion had so developed at the Annual Meeting that the prerogatives of Ashton, which had been gradually diminished in several respects, were still more drastically assailed. An amendment of the General Law was carried, whereby any District could nominate one of their Past District Officers for the position of Chief Shepherd or Deputy Chief Shepherd. The nominations of Cor. Sec. and Treasurer were still reserved to Ashton. It fell out that the succeeding Chiefs for two more years—that is, the newly-elected C.S. and his Deputy, were chosen from the Ashton District.

How greatly the new privilege was appreciated, however, is evidenced by the fact that, commencing with the year 1863, when James Smith, of Rochdale, completed his term of office, there was not another Ashton member elected as Chief until 1878-9, although there were several from the near neighbourhoods of Oldham, Stalybridge and Manchester. Again there was a lapse of nine years before another Ashton Chief ascended the "throne." And that ended the reign of Chief Shepherds from Ashton—only two at long intervals, after an unbroken chain extending over 35 years.

Looking at the subsequent decadence of the District, even up to the verge of a last gasp by the No. 1 Lodge, it seems as though Ashton Shepherdry lost stamina, and actually wore itself out, through lack of cross-fertilisation with the brains, initiative and enthusiasm of other Districts. The prolongation of dominant power within narrow limits is always a dangerous thing. It is hoped by the present Executive, however, that the life of the "Loyal Abel," at least, may be saved and made healthy again.

PRESENTATION TO SURVIVING FOUNDERS.

The A.M. in 1861 was held at Bishop Auckland. The "Honest View" Lodge at Ashton had two years before proposed a testimonial from branches of the Order to the surviving founders, and £18 10s. having been subscribed, a committee of five, along with the present officers, was appointed to decide what form the testimonial should take. The presentation took place at the Friendship Inn, Ashton, on June 22nd. It had been decided that Thomas Schollfield, James Lees, Thomas Chadwick and John Nield were equally entitled to participate in the recognition as Founders of the Order. The C.S. J. Wood (Ashton) presided over a goodly and representative company from several Districts.

Cor. Sec. Solomon Hampson said the surviving Founders were deserving of highest praise, not only for the spirit of economy which they had infused into their transactions, but for the high tone of morality that pervaded all the lectures they had adopted. It was now about 34 years since the Order was established, and in that length of time the subscriptions to support the government of the Order had not amounted to £250, yet there was a balance of £100 in the Treasurer's hands. To show the degree of industry

that characterised the Founders, he pointed out that in the second year of the Society's existence there were 29 Lodges opened, whereas in the Society's most prosperous year since, with extended Districts, there had been only 70. From the modest beginning, despite losses by the way, they had now 993 Lodges and 34,000 members. If they counted those who had died or been initiated, there must have been enrolled from 60,000 to 70,000, a number never anticipated by the Founders. Thousands yet unborn would bless the day on which the Order was ushered into existence. He then presented a Bible and Church service to Thomas Scholfield, an electro-plated teapot and silver snuff box to James Lees, an easy chair to Thomas Chadwick, and an English patent lever watch to John Nield. Each article had engraved upon it the name of the recipient and the words :—

“ Presented, by the members of the Loyal Order of Ancient Shepherds, A.U., to Mr. ———, for his exertions as a Founder of the above Order. June 22nd, 1861.”

The A.M. in 1862 was held at Stockport, and in 1863 at Birkenhead, where it was agreed that three Districts be elected to appoint each one a competent auditor, to retire in rotation, commencing with Bolton (three years), Ashton (two years) and Leeds (one year) ; thereafter the senior auditor retiring annually. This year, whilst the Order was congratulated upon great progress made since the 1862 “ A.M.C. ” (this term being again brought into use), the March Quarterly Report reminded the members, with feelings of sorrow, of the gloomy prospects still hanging over the cotton manufacturing districts, caused by the deadly strife still raging in America. The financial state of a great number of Lodges in the cotton districts had necessitated an appeal for the relief of distressed members, and special thanks were tendered to the “ Plains of Goshen ” Lodge, Bramley District, for having originated the relief fund. The number of members returned as not able to pay contributions was 2,892, a loss to the funds of £1,227 15s. 1d.

Tideswell was visited in 1864 and Cardiff in 1865. On the latter occasion an incidental fund was established for relief by the delegates of deserving cases, an annual levy being made upon the membership of each District, not more than £20 to be granted in any one case. A Committee was appointed to inquire into the best mode of erecting an Orphans' Home, and ascertain from each District the number of orphans it had during the last five years.

At Bristol A.M.C., in 1866, C.S. John Hyde presiding, the Ashton privilege of nominating the Cor. Sec. and Treasurer from the Head District was now taken away, and every District was empowered to nominate one candidate for any of the four offices, C.S., D.C.S., Cor. Sec. and Treasurer, the two latter to be eligible for re-election. Each retiring C.S. in future was to be presented with a silver medal, suitably inscribed, “ if the A.M. considers they have done their duty.” The C.S., D.C.S., and James Scholfield (Treasurer) were each presented with a silver medal at this meeting. John Beardshall, Ashton, was appointed Cor. Sec. to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Solomon Hampson.

BOARD OF MANAGEMENT ESTABLISHED.

A.M., 1867, at Sheffield, extending over four days. C.S. John Whitehead presided. It would appear that delegates were becoming loquacious, for a rule was put on record that no speaker be allowed to address the meeting for more than fifteen minutes at one time. It was agreed by 59 votes to 21 against, that the General Rules of the Order be enrolled under the Friendly Societies' Act.

At this meeting it was also agreed that a Board of Management be appointed for the ensuing year, the directors to be nominated by any District, but no District to have two members on the Board at one time; the Board to consist of the C.S., D.C.S., Cor. Sec. and four members of the Order. The first four were chosen by the meeting, namely, John Swails (Oldham), William Fisher (Liverpool), Joseph Andrews (Birkenhead), and Peter Lyne (Bolton). Thomas Brown (Chorley) elected C.S. and David Race (Manchester), D.C.S.; whilst James Farron, Ashton, who had been temporarily appointed by the Ashton Quarterly Meeting to fill the office of Cor. Sec., owing to the default of John Beardshall, was reappointed. Beardshall's sureties were called upon to pay their bond.

Trustees were appointed in the persons of P.C.S. John Hyde (Stalybridge), P.M. Samuel Adams (Ashton), and P.M. John Brooks (Sheffield).

An official note of the proceedings of the A.M.C. at Preston, in 1869, was published in the Annual Report. Previously only the Chief's Address had appeared in the "Magazine." The following year, at Bermondsey, the newly-formed Board of Management appeared to have stumbled and incurred a vote of censure for appointing one of their number—P.C.S. David Race—to sit at the meeting as a representative. By courtesy he was allowed to remain, but the A.M.C. declared that "in future no Board of Management be allowed to send any representative . . . without consent."

It is interesting to note that at this period the A.M.C. extended over five days. Fifty-six years later, at the Centenary, the deliberations are completed within the same limit of time, notwithstanding the wider ramifications of the Society's operations, the vastly increased membership, extending even to branches in lands overseas, the addition of State Insurance business, and the larger consideration which has perforce to be given to political questions affecting the Friendly Society movement. There is a moral in this, which is applicable to modern criticisms as to undue time being spent at such gatherings. One explanation of the later possibilities and experience is to be found in the more scientific organisation of the work of the Order.

The next year's progress of the Society, leading up to the Jubilee celebration of its foundation, was one of the most momentous periods in its history—paving the way to quite a new epoch. At the close of 1870, Bro. Thomas Scholfield died, practically forty-four years after the birth of Shepherdry.

Important Annual Meetings were held in succession, mostly of a "negative" character. At Lincoln, in 1871, the question of a graduated scale was first mooted from Accrington. A general Funeral Fund was also proposed, but negatived. The question of providing a Lifeboat, proposed by Bristol in 1870, was again adjourned. In 1872, at Whaley Bridge, Lincoln introduced the graduated scale, with little effect. At Accrington, in 1873, the adoption of the graduated scale was adjourned. The following year at Shipley, it was decisively rejected. A proposed Sick Fund connected with the Head of Order shared a like fate.

Bristol was host of the A.M.C. in 1875, when the growing feeling for legislative registration, graduation and other movements consolidated and asserted itself. Registration of Lodges and Districts was made compulsory; and a similar decision was reached on the Graduated Scale question, both to come into operation in 1877. The purchase of a Lifeboat was agreed to. P.C.S. Fisher was expelled for being unfinancial during his year of office. And so the year of Jubilee was reached.

THE GRADUATED SCALE.

In these enlightened days, no one would dream of denying the wisdom and actuarial necessity of a graduated scale of contributions for sickness and funeral benefits, based upon the ages of members. It took half-a-century for the Shepherds to learn their lesson. The Oddfellows and Foresters realised the need of reform at an earlier date, because of their wider experience, larger collective wisdom and the fact that, as Societies, they were earlier born than the Shepherds. Industrial Insurance Companies, being established for profit, and, as Corporations, having "no souls to save or bodies to be kicked," had at once realised the only safe financial lines upon which such guaranteed benefits could be based.

Nevertheless, it must be remembered that the Friendly Society mind was different from the more sordid money-making spirit which made the chief object in life one of personal profit and the adding together of material riches. The Friendly Society ideal was based upon more generous impulses. The brotherhoods were not formed with a view to individual gain. They were first of all established as a means of protection against the fortuitous calamities of daily life. Secondly, strength and surety were sought in the union of many. Thirdly, there was the cementing influence of the soul of men, moved by the gracious qualities of sympathy for the unfortunate and poor, self-sacrifice and thankfulness when blessed with good health, and the willingness of those who escaped physical hurt to be content and glad that their common fund was available for succouring others who were sick and bereaved.

It was not a good business proposition to place young and older men on the same footing, on the principle that the young and able should aid the aged as members of a common family. That was the very essence of Shepherdry in its first conception, so that it

was excusable if the progenitors of the Order did not realise the danger of a possible financial exhaustion. Given an agreement with the ideal of brotherhood and mutual help, the mistake made was that the contributions, being on an equality, were not large enough to ensure such substantial surplus as would avoid any extraordinary levy.

The early Shepherds lacked actuarial experience which came much later, when liabilities grew and matured with the increasing age of the one-time young enthusiasts, who had not realised the certainty of infirmities in middle life and old age. Fortunately, the wiser minds of statesmen insisted upon the valuation of Societies to furnish such knowledge. It was necessary to protect the interests of the multitude against the unwisdom and ignorance of those who formed the local branches.

Still, it is easy to understand the tenacity of the Founders in holding to their first amiable instinct, moved by generous impulses rather than the thought of individual benefit, except when the need arose. But, as was well said by C.S. Joseph Andrews, when the principle of graduated contributions was nearing acceptance, "No unprejudiced mind would dream of defending the present arrangement (level contributions), and only an innate love for a well-beaten track prevented a change before."

Other arguments against the reform were that members did not like compulsion. They should be led by gentle stages, so that, largely by voluntary adoption of the principle, here and there, branches would become educated, or led to the necessary step by growing examples of exhaustion from excessive claims as the average age increased. If this were done, it was said, they would more and more fall into line. In reply to the latter, it was stated by C.S. Edward Sendall in 1873 that—

"If Lodges which opposed the reform stood or fell alone they would have no right to complain, but if Districts would insist upon doing as they pleased, and, when funds were low, asked to be supported by others, it was unfair."

The definite proposition for adopting a graduated scale was raised first at Lincoln A.M., in 1871, by delegates from Accrington. Again at Chapel-en-le-Frith, in 1872; at Accrington, in 1873; and at Shipley, in 1874. On each occasion the rejection was decisive. Yet the leaven was working and the victory was won at the historic Bristol A.M. in 1875. The battle had been fierce and always lively. It was pleaded that the returns were neither so full or carefully made as to be reliable in regard to the experience of branches; and those who raised this plea were usually the most remiss in making returns. The unsound Lodges, fearing the revelation of their position, were the greatest culprits, and neglected to comply with the Head of Order requests for returns.

Chief Shepherds and budding Chief Shepherds largely supported the reform, but some were swayed in the maelstrom of contending opinions. The late C.S. David Race (Manchester) supported, and his near neighbour, an earlier C.S., Peter Lyne (Bolton), opposed

a graduated scale. One member declared, at an A.M.C., that he had been a member of the Oddfellows' branch for 24 years and of a Foresters' branch for 23 years; that they were among the most promising Districts, and never intended to adopt a graduated scale. If the Shepherds made it compulsory, the Society would very quickly go down. These demonstrations of the "never would," however, were not long-lived, for a short twelve months falsified them all.

C.S. Edward Sendall (Lincoln), one of the strongest advocates of the reform, quoted Bro. Radcliffe, secretary of Manchester Unity of Oddfellows, as to its experience of graduated contributions. "He said it led to an increase of membership." This was a denial to the plea of opposing Shepherds that a reverse effect would follow. Bro. Radcliffe added that—

"Every step taken towards security had led to an increase of members. In 1852-53 when their Order took the great step of graduated payments, many predicted it was the commencement of the ruin of the Manchester Unity, but it was the beginning of their prosperity."

Education had its destined effect, but it was disastrously slow, as past events had proved. Quarter of a century earlier this was vividly demonstrated by the Pontefract and other Yorkshire secessions. Even as early as 1841, Pontefract furnished a pre-vision of graduated payments, proving that those hard-headed men of Yorkshire had a business foresight which the majority did not recognise. Looking back over the days of contention, between those who represented the sentimental and altogether estimable qualities of Shepherdry on its humane side, and those who sought to ensure the permanent success of the Order as a practical financial proposition, in view of what the liabilities might be when the young lives grew sere and old, there must, of necessity, be a feeling of regret that the would-be teachers had not been less impetuous in their action, and had remained with the Society until, by way of an educational process, they had "leavened the lump." Graduated payments would have come much earlier, membership losses would have been averted, virile minds would have remained to help along the course of development, and Shepherdry might have been a much mightier force even than it is to-day as a result of a hundred years' growth.

The principle was won in 1875, but the opponent forces were not wholly captured for a long time.

The period for the spirit of voluntarism to operate upon prejudiced minds—namely, two years—was too brief, especially in the case of the older members. The latter considered it a hardship that they should be asked to either increase their contributions or accept reduced benefits, in view of the original promises made, and their long period of membership. It did not occur to them that in their late years they had, in ignorance, it is true, been using the funds of younger members who followed on, and they, in turn, would be using the funds of the next generation to a larger relative degree, until the death blow came to their Lodge. Rather than submit, many Lodges became extinct or otherwise lost to the Order.

REGISTRATION OF BRANCHES.

This reform—the legalising of the Society—was also the subject of a long agitation by a few of the wiser heads, but neglected for many years until the battle was won by a new generation. The reform was never really won by consent. It was rather accepted as inevitable under a Statutory obligation. As with the graduated scale, Pontefract was responsible for the first definite suggestion of Registration in its revolutionary scheme of 1841. This would have involved a standardised system of bookkeeping, proposed for adoption at the same time.

As we proceed with our review of the Order, through the period of its "growing pains," we are more and more impressed with the fact that the men of Pontefract had, in fifteen years from the inception of Shepherdry, grasped the whole problem of its financial necessities and the root principle of its permanence. Almost everything that has been accomplished since, through the broader minds of the membership, or through compulsion by the State in measures for safeguarding the interests of the whole; all that has been done by way of emulation and profiting from the application of State schemes, which first found their inspiration in the Friendly Society ideal; all these developments would appear to have had their genesis, with modifications and expansions, in the rejected proposals of Pontefract. Students will find in this one of the most profitable chapters in Shepherd history. The prideful of modern times may discover, by comparison, how much they owe in germ planting to the Yorkshire malcontents. The carping critics of reformers, along with those of dilatory movement in matters affecting the collective good, may also evolve a moral, the application of which will give a new impetus to the post-centenary progress of Shepherdry.

Let us reflect once more upon the fatal perverseness of those who delayed the things that mattered, and which, in the end, came to pass despite their obstructive and destructive tactics. The would-be reformers of 1841, in the main, did not live to see the day, in 1875, when it was ordained, or in 1877-8, when it became compulsory—

- "(1) To register all branches, to standardise books and make returns;
(2) To adopt a graduated scale of payments; and
(3) Quinquennial valuations."

To-day the Society, while not accepting the suggestion of a complete centralisation of Lodge and District Funds, is evolving some wise modifications of the idea. Funeral funds are sufficiently centralised, or reinsured, to give security, with local branch control of the administration of the benefit. The trend of the times is to place sickness benefit in a similar assured position, thus equalising the liabilities in a given area.

THE "GOOD SHEPHERD" LIFEBOAT.

One of the humane resolutions of the Order of Shepherds, outside its specific mission, was the presentation of a Lifeboat to the National Lifeboat Institution, and its maintenance over many years, in emulation of like enterprises by other large Friendly Societies. The proposal first came from Bristol, at the South London A.M.C. in 1870. It immediately caught the fancy of the delegates and was promptly spread abroad through Districts. In 1871 it was announced that several Districts had already opened subscription lists for the project. Two years later a Bristol delegate stated that his District had so far demonstrated its earnestness in the proposal that £125 had been collected towards carrying it out. Meanwhile, enthusiastic leaders of the Order made active propaganda of the Lifeboat idea, and funds were gathered in many directions. It was fitting that Bristol should be the scene of the A.M.C. in 1875—the great reform year—when, added to several solid legislative measures as a culmination of many years of striving, and the beginning of a new era of Shepherdry on the eve of Jubilee, this other good and honourable impulse from Bristol was officially responded to.

The estimated cost of the proposed Lifeboat was £680, and the Annual Meeting resolved that this sum should be raised by voluntary subscriptions, that the Lifeboat should be named the "Good Shepherd," and that its annual upkeep should be provided by a levy. The Lifeboat was duly christened and launched, in Ashton-under-Lyne, at the "Jubilee" A.M.C. in 1876. As a commemorative event it was very attractive and successful, although it did not possess the reality of a dedication to its sacred mission on the sea coast. A large sheet of water, known as Chadwick's Dams, near Stamford Park, was utilised for the launch, which was witnessed by thousands of people. The boat, manned by a crew of eleven men, was drawn from the grounds opposite the Drill Shed by eight powerful horses, on a beautiful sunny afternoon, and duly launched under the control of Capt. C. Grey Jones, R.N., one of the assistant inspectors for the National Lifeboat Institution, amid the cheers of the multitude. The christening ceremony was performed by Miss Andrew, eldest daughter of Mr. Ely Andrew, Mayor of the Manor, in the absence of her mother through indisposition. Miss Andrew performed her task with the following words:—

"I have great pleasure in naming this boat 'The Good Shepherd,' and I sincerely trust her services will never be required; but, if they are, I hope she will prove worthy of her good name."

A bottle of champagne was dashed against the stern of the boat, and simultaneously it glided gracefully into the water. Subsequently it was conveyed to Cemlyn on the coast of Anglesey, where it rendered good service.

After fourteen years the boat was reported unfit for use, owing chiefly to the lack of modern appliances. Subscriptions were again raised, and a new boat purchased from Messrs. Macallister, Dumbarton, at a cost of £700. It was launched on the Clyde, at

Greenock A.M.C. in 1891, in the presence of 20,000 people, by the wife of Bro. G. Cromar, C.S., of Hawarden. "The Good Shepherd" was thenceforward consigned to its beneficent, but much more strenuous, work at Stromness, on the stormy coast of the Mainland at the Orkneys. Its upkeep was met by voluntary contributions from Lodges and Districts for many years, until interest in it gradually waned, and, owing to the newly-developed national method of raising funds in every town by Lifeboat collections, in which the whole population participated, it was felt to be no longer a necessity or duty of the Order to shoulder a cost which the membership shared already in their home-town efforts. And so the "Good Shepherd" passed away. We confess to being still possessed of the sentimental feeling that, with its great name, its illustrative work in aiding shipwrecked mariners, and the beauty of its association with the object and principles of Shepherdry, such a golden link of service might well have been maintained for ever.

THE YEAR OF JUBILEE.

The fiftieth anniversary of the Society's foundation was celebrated at Ashton-under-Lyne, Whitsuntide, 1876. It was a time of rejoicing, of reflection and satisfaction by the older members at the progress made, and of inspiration to all—because of the actual beginning of a second half-century of work, and also in view of the inauguration of a new order of things in Shepherdry from the reforms decided upon at the previous A.M.C.

Apart from the business sessions of the Conference, the anniversary was a notable one, owing to the several demonstrations which attracted the attention of the Friendly Society world as a whole. This interest was evoked largely by the fact that other great Orders emanated from this central area of the kingdom. On Saturday, June 3rd, the town of Ashton was given up completely to the demonstration. People mustered in thousands, not only as Friendly Society participants, but as spectators. It is true that rain during the afternoon gave its discomforts to all outdoor events, but, despite this, enthusiasm was not killed, and a great deal of that spirit which had built up the movement was demonstrated as an unconquerable testimony to its success.

The official reports of the day show the magnificent character of the celebration in detail. There was a great procession on Saturday; the town was gaily decorated by traders and private residents. Among other bodies taking part were the Stalybridge Shepherds' Band in new scarlet uniforms, seven fire brigades, the new Lifeboat, which was the cynosure of all eyes; members of the Corporation, the 13th C.R.V. Band; then the mass of Shepherds with a new Jubilee banner, Order and District Officers, various emblematical devices and personages, many brass and fife and drum bands, and representatives of Wisbech Unity. Of course, the surviving founders of the Order, in the persons of Bro. James Lees (Ashton) and Bro. John Nield (Mossley) were afforded a special place of honour, along with P.C.S. James Farron, Cor. Sec. and

other Chief Officers, including Bros. W. Hodgson (Halifax), presiding C.S., H. Uttley, D.C.S., and the Board of Management. Other Societies taking part were the Grand United Order of Oddfellows, United Order of Free Gardeners, Ancient Order of Foresters, and Independent Order of Oddfellows, M.U.

There was again a large procession to the Parish Church on Sunday afternoon, when the Rev. J. D. Kelly, rural dean, preached a sermon from the text "The three-fold cord is not quickly broken," Ecclesiastes, chap. iv., verse 12. The celebration of the Jubilee included a fête and athletic sports organised by the amalgamated societies on Whit Monday evening.

The business sessions extended over five full days. An interesting circumstance was the presence of Bro. R. Littlewood, Pennsylvania, as a representative of the Grand Lodge in America. This also was the first A.M. at which there had been representatives from Scotland—Bros. J. W. Hastie (Glasgow), J. Martin and D. Smith (Greenock). Two visitors—Bros. W. Boulton and H. Ball—attended from Wisbech Unity. Considerable criticism of the Friendly Societies' Act was indulged, and Bro. J. Brooks, of Sheffield, was appointed Parliamentary Agent, to confer with other Societies, and watch the Bill in their general interest. It was eventually resolved, in view of the difficulties, Lodges having been required to register by 1877, that a further year of grace should be allowed before the edict of compulsion was made to operate. Another attempt was made to abrogate the decision of the previous A.M. for the compulsory adoption of graduated tables. The proposition came from Leigh and Blackburn, with something like a threat that if compelled they would secede. Bro. J. W. Hastie, representing Glasgow, placed the weight of the northern brethren in the scale for graduation. Leader after leader advanced all the old arguments for and against graduated scales. The obstructionists wanted to have liberty of choice, which was equivalent to having no general system of graduation at all. The decision to maintain the previous position was carried by a large majority, but the commencement of the compulsory period was delayed to 1878.

BEGINNING THE SECOND HALF-CENTURY.

Following the year of Jubilee, while the Officers had a distinct mandate for carrying out the vital reforms already discussed, this did not mean that the straight and progressive course would be pursued with the full and enlightened consent of branches to the obligations placed upon them. There was a stubborn field to plough—a rough and arduous road to traverse, before the promised land of financial stability was reached.

Resentment, rebellion, refusals to carry out the Order mandates, with resulting secessions, expulsions and decadence of branches were all experienced as the years passed by. But events led, as we realise now, to the higher and firmer ground of efficiency and consolidation. The leaders of the time were patient and persevering, although often beset by despairing qualms; but their very

difficulties strengthened the man in them and made for ultimate success. James Farron proved his ability throughout a lengthened service of twenty-two years—the longest reign in the line of Secretaries. C.S. Herbert Uttley, at Newport A.M.C., in 1877, paid high tribute to him as a man and brother. He said :—

“ I have ever found in him a brother with an even temper, a man of keen perception, retentive in memory, of indomitable perseverance, and possessing a practicable and extensive knowledge of the working of our Order.”

Judging from all the records during Bro. Farron's generation, this eulogium was just and well deserved. With all his strength and consciousness of duty he strove for nigh a dozen years longer, through stress and varied fortunes on the road to financial salvation, ever holding high the Shepherds' banner, until sickness bore him down, caused his relinquishment of office, and finally stole his life away in the year 1889. The Order owes a great deal to such men as James Farron, Past Chief Shepherd and Permanent Secretary, although at the last, with waning powers, he was almost forced out of office, notwithstanding his plea to be kept in association with the work he had loved and carried on so long in some subordinate capacity. He was not a Founder, but he was one who did his part as a Maker of the regenerated Society. In the hour of its need Shepherdry has always raised great souls to secure its interests. In 1878 Bro. Farron gave up his outside offices and became whole-time Secretary of the Order.

The evils of the old system had been checked at the source, and the Society had now set itself boldly and persistently to the work of recovery and consolidation. To lead insolvent Lodges on the upward path was an arduous and thankless task. The would-be saviours of the branches, whose efforts to bring about reform were unselfish as they were whole-hearted, were persistently abused and misunderstood. The members affected fought stubbornly, in many instances, against the “ innovations,” and had to be handled with patience as well as firmness. Indeed, the period of sympathetic consideration may now be held, with after-the-event knowledge, as too prolonged. The heart of recalcitrant members was right, but the head was wrong. The great stumbling block was ignorance ; in other words, lack of experience as to mortality and sickness rates, and the necessity of each life approximately paying its due quota to the common fund, which was to ameliorate its sickness and provide for a decent burial at death.

Following upon James Farron, a new Secretary was appointed in the person of Past Chief Shepherd Duncan Kennedy, of the City of Glasgow District. His appointment was made at the Newcastle-under-Lyme A.M.C., Staffordshire Potteries Area, in 1889, when he defeated Bro. J. J. Ellis, another strong candidate, from Bristol. Just that strenuous mind and keen wit which were required to enforce the revolution in the Order's constitution were found in Bro. Duncan Kennedy. His career was one of hard battling, brilliant and conscientious service, and a lifetime's work accomplished in the comparatively brief spell, as General Secretary, of eleven

fruitful years. He did his work and died, the fires burnt out when only middle-aged, in the year 1900. Here again a Maker of the Order wrought, for love of Shepherdry, to the ultimate supreme sacrifice. Duncan Kennedy achieved much, and died practically in harness.

There had been a subsidence in net membership when he took office compared with the returns for 1876-7. In the year 1889 the membership was shown to be about 70,000, and, including Wisbech Unity, nearly 80,000, with total funds amounting to £275,000. In the meantime a continuous wastage was experienced in lapsed and expelled Lodges. But the "new blood" introduced under reformed conditions strengthened the arms of the Order, and headway was again slowly but continuously made in the membership. In the next decade the increase, after allowing for losses by the way, was an average of 1,000 members a year. For a long time the advance was steadily upward.

The A.M.C., in 1877, was held at Newport, when Lincoln District was suspended for having registered their rules as a separate Society under the mistaken notion that otherwise the Central body would have control over their funds. Serious attention was drawn to the 23rd Clause in the Poor Law Amendment Act, which was condemned as an infringement upon the just rights and privileges of the Friendly Societies and calculated to bear oppressively and unjustly on the members of the same. A resolution to use every effort to expunge the obnoxious clause was carried. It gave power to Guardians to claim the sickness benefit of a pauper towards the cost of his relief, and also his maintenance as a pauper lunatic. The obnoxious clause was afterwards eliminated.

The A.M.C. at Hawarden, in 1878, was notable for the presidency and speech by the Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone, M.P., at a banquet and meeting, and his subsequent initiation as an honorary member of the Shepherds' Order. Special satisfaction was found in the fact that in the whole course of his famous career and as Prime Minister, this was the only Friendly Society with which he associated himself by formal initiation through the ceremonial of the Order. The Presiding Chief on this occasion was Bro. Thomas Hawkins, of Oldham, afterwards Order Treasurer.

FATAL DELAY OF REFORM.

At Middlesbrough A.M.C., in 1879, several interesting subjects were raised by C.S. George Partington. Even now, 47 years later, the proposals have scarcely reached maturity in the minds of members of the Order. As current national movements show, Friendly Societies render themselves liable to outpacing in some respects owing to the dilatoriness of their progress. This is illustrated in the "Pensions at 65" Act, passed in 1925. George Partington strongly advocated a superannuation benefit for Shepherds in 1879. He argued that it would make Shepherdry one of the most popular and useful institutions in the country. Many applicants for benevolent grants, he said, were those who,



HEADQUARTERS : RICHMOND HOUSE, HIGH STREET, C.-ON-M., MANCHESTER.



SHEPHERDS' CONVALESCENT HOME.

"The Towers," Haybridge, Essex.

(In connection with the Essex and Wisbech District.)

through old age, or unforeseen circumstances, were unable to earn their livelihood, and, after a life of labour, they were worse off than ordinary sick applicants. For the latter there was the probability that they would again be enabled to resume their employment when health returned.

"For the poor aged brother there was no such hope. There was no ray of sunshine shedding its beams over him to cheer him—there was nothing to look forward to but a life of penury and want. In too many cases the alternative was either to beg, or to apply for parochial relief, and so to continue a weary existence until it pleased God to call him away."

As to ways and means, it was pointed out that what a labouring man could not do by himself might be done by the co-operation of hundreds of labouring men, and the provision for old age made by the union of members. C. S. William Halstead presented a similar plea, in 1880, at Swansea. What was not done by the Societies as a measure of wisdom, has now been developed into an Act by the State, which imposes a much more costly tribute than might have been necessary in an adjustment of Friendly Society contributions to the same end.

It was agreed that a Valuation of the Order should be made at the end of 1880, and, meanwhile, all Lodges and Districts were urged to complete their Registration. It must not be supposed that the Shepherds were slower in their education than other Orders. C.S. William Halstead, in 1880, said the Chief Registrar, in his report for 1878, stated with respect to the Shepherds that they were in the third position amongst Friendly Societies with regard to Registration. There were now 59 Districts and 338 Lodges with graduated scales registered as branches, and rapid progress was being made with others.

The A.M.C. agreed that all Lodges not registered by the end of 1880, except those making preparations therefor, should be suspended, the object being to secure full data for the Valuation.

VALUATION AND SOLVENCY.

Since the Friendly Societies' Act of 1875, enacting that there must be a valuation of Lodges and Districts every five years, the first quinquennial period had expired. Preparations for complying with the law were definitely agreed upon. It was absolutely necessary, said C.S. Halstead, that they should clearly understand the true position of every branch of the Society—whether they were in such a position as would enable them to fulfil the obligations they had undertaken or not. They had a warning in the large number of Lodges that had collapsed, and were continually collapsing, throughout the country. Thousands of their fellow-members, who had placed full confidence in the Society, paid their contributions, perhaps for 20 to 40 years, and, when it was too late for their admittance into any other Society, found that the funds of the Lodge were exhausted, and the provision they had struggled to make against sickness and misfortune had vanished. In other cases, where members had left the Lodge after paying contributions for a number of years, and, owing to other favourable

circumstances and good management, the Lodge had been able to accumulate large funds, so that when the number of members became reduced to a few they found no difficulty in passing a resolution to divide the funds among themselves. They thereby appropriated a portion of that money which, in all fairness and under a proper valuation, would have been received by the poor widows and orphans of those whom death had previously taken away. Security and progress were thus shown to be found in the "tions"—Registration, Graduation and Valuation.

The most important part in the crucial Valuation experience of the Shepherds was played by the Abbott Brothers of Sheffield. In the course of 25 years—or five quinquenniums—by their masterly and relentless exposition of the unsoundness, or otherwise, of branches, and their stern demonstrations as to the right road to travel, they aided the great financial reform which placed Shepherdry among the soundest and safest of Friendly Societies in the land.

The Valuation work was actually commenced by Mr. William Edge, of Manchester, who was appointed by an almost unanimous vote of the delegates—52 against 4 for Bro. T. Abbott—the latter being brother to George Abbott, who subsequently became Chief of the Order. As Thomas Abbott's partner, George Abbott was responsible for carrying out the Valuations for the Shepherds, whilst Thomas was more intimately associated with the Foresters and other Societies.

The Valuers were not always popular, even amongst the more modern and experienced branches of the Society. Some of their drastic proposals for reform, by the adjustment of contributions and benefits, in order to raise the degree of solvency, were resented, and sometimes met with defiance. It was a thankless task for Head Officers as well as the Actuaries, this leading of branches over rough ways for their own safety and welfare. It was strange to find that all the disastrous vicissitudes of the past, the losses of members and funds, the exhaustion and collapse of Lodges, and the pettish break-up or secession of Districts in various directions, had not shown the folly of persisting in the old worn-out courses of insufficiency in funds and irregularities of government. Firm and persistent action, however, was bound to prevail in the end, although reform was delayed, even as it has been with proposals for consolidation, economy and the safeguarding of benefits in more modern days. Yet the good work has been largely accomplished, and the foundation laid for dealing with new problems in the future. Sympathy and consideration were always needed; but the best workers for the general good scarcely ever got credit in their day and generation for the achievements which secured the continuance of Shepherdry and its beneficent principles.

No great and humane cause has been won without its crucifixions. Ignorance and passion have ever been stumbling blocks in the path of humans. The moral is obvious. In the mistakes of the past there may be found an argument for great and patient educational efforts before vital reforms are attempted. The leaven should always have full opportunity to work.

In one of the most important aspects of financial reform it is well to repeat and remember always, that every life must pay its due quota to the common fund, according to the prospective claims that are to be made upon it. And here we may profitably interpolate a lesson on the development of Juvenile branches. There should be the fullest training of the young, by easy and understandable stages, in the truths of Friendly Society economics. This may seem a hard subject, but, in Shepherd lore and practice, it can be made easy and clear to the limited vision of the Juvenile mind. The present is a careless age. Men and women in the mass do not stop to think very much, or deeply, but if the young are taught the necessary principles they will, as a matter of course, later on adopt the right methods of achieving the ideals which Shepherdry, plus actuarial wisdom, stands for.

The first Valuation by William Edge dealt with 47,574 male adult members. It was based largely, not upon a graduated scale, but uniform contributions, and so its chief use was in showing the hopelessness of the latter system. In 1886, the A.M.C. was held at Sheffield. Abbott Bros., of Sheffield, and a Mr. Clery were submitted by the Board of Management for selection as Valuers. It was pointed out that Mr. Clery, holding a Government office, could not give the same time, care and attention to the work as the professional actuaries, and Abbott Bros. were unanimously appointed. Then supervened, as stated, quarter of a century's masterly handling of the Order's valuations, and coincident steps under the advice of Abbott Bros. towards that higher standard of solvency which was in effect to raise the Society from a financial morass to a level plane from which a safe actuarial position was reached, and its high destiny assured.

Again in 1886 stringent resolutions were considered to ensure, under pain of expulsion, that all Lodges and Districts should be registered prior to 1st December, and also send in valuation returns. They were actually passed at the 1885 A.M.C. and had had a potent effect as the result of what Bro. Ellis, of Bristol, termed "an electric shock." The Shepherds now stood before the public, he added, "a loyal and compact Order." A resolution was carried empowering the Head of Order to reinstate any District or Lodge which had fallen outside the pale, on their registering and producing the valuation data for 1880 where possible.

The result of the first Valuation by Abbott Bros. was reported at Dundee in 1888, and dealt with 765 Lodges, having 60,305 male adult members. The total liabilities were £1,639,856 and the assets £1,317,314, leaving a deficit of £322,722. The average relative degree of solvency was 16s. in the £, or 3s. 11d. higher than at the previous valuation. This improvement was more apparent than real, as it was due largely to light sickness, the high rate of secessions, and exclusion of wives' funeral liabilities on account of unmarried members. Bro. Duncan Kennedy argued in favour of graduated funeral funds rather than variable levies. Bro. G. Abbott (Valuer) emphasised the point, and the lesson was urged of steps being taken to raise the standard of solvency.

In 1890 Abbott Bros. were reappointed at Manchester, and their Valuation report presented at Wrexham in 1893, when it was shown that 878 Lodges with 80,681 male adult members, had furnished particulars, and the average degree of solvency had dropped to 15s. 1d. in the £. In 1891, at Greenock, a definite step in the forward movement was taken by a unanimous decision that at the end of the following year Districts must form funeral funds on a graduated scale of contributions, instead of levying when deaths occurred. With this surety of promised benefits it was held that prospective members would have more confidence in the funds, and Districts would hold a potent control over individual Lodges. At Hull, in 1894, the decision of Wrexham was confirmed, that all Lodges worth less than 16s. 8d. in the £ should at once take steps to raise their standard of solvency above that level.

Messrs. Abbott were again elected at Edinburgh in 1895, and three years later their report was presented at Belfast. The Lodges making returns numbered 920, with 93,430 male adult members, and the average worth of the £ had now risen to 16s. 1d. In every respect, the completeness and soundness of this report in showing the position and progress of the Order was such that the Government Registrar, in his report to Parliament, highly complimented the Society upon the progress made. The same year it was decided that the standard of Valuation should be raised to 17s. 6d. in the £.

At the Chorley A.M.C. in 1903 the Valuers presented a report of 920 Lodges, having 106,620 male adult members, with the degree of solvency raised to 17s. 1d. in the £. The previous year Wisbech Unity was amalgamated, and were now included as 80 Lodges with 13,300 members. The total was 1,000 Lodges, 97 Districts, 119,310 members, with a combined capital of £635,868. The comment of the Valuers on this splendid achievement is worthy of presentation here:—

“The reforms effected since the Valuation of 1895 may fairly be said to have reduced the deficiencies by £73,145, provided increased special reserves of £76,653, counteracted excessive sick payments of £69,957, and prevented the natural growth of the deficiencies amounting to £92,123, the total financial effect reaching the striking amount of £307,878.

Thus, whilst the liabilities have increased during the course of the past five years by 4s. 4d. per member, the assets have increased by £1 10s. 2d. per member; or since the year 1890 the average liabilities have decreased by 6s. 1d. per member, whilst the assets have increased by £2 11s. 3d. per member. In the Ashton Unity alone the deficiency has decreased by £55,715 within the past five years, and by £112,647 since 1890; or by £1 4s. 5d. per member within five years, and by £2 15s. 11d. per member within ten years.”

The Executive attempted to carry a resolution raising the standard of solvency to be attained from 17s. 6d. to 18s. in the £. This was rejected on a strong plea from Bristol and other Districts that they should wait until the next Valuation fully revealed the result of recent reforms, and then “make a bold effort to reach the full degree of solvency of 20s. in the £.” When this report came to hand at Wrexham in 1908—the last of the five quinquennium reports by Bro. George Abbott, who now perforce felt compelled

to retire from the future task owing to declining health—it was shown that the average standard of solvency had advanced to 18s. 6d., whilst the accumulated funds reached more than a million sterling.

This completed a quarter of a century's work, which, in securing the consolidation of funds and financial reform, was the most strenuous and effective in the whole history of the Society. Coincident with the Valuer's revelations and recommendations, the greatest part played in this period was the eleven year's stern and efficient work by the late P.C.S. Duncan Kennedy, as General Secretary, who was followed by another sturdy Scotsman in the person of P.C.S. John McNicol, to put what might almost be termed the coping stone on the temple of Shepherdry's financial reform.

THE TREASURERSHIP.

Tunstall, Staffordshire, was the scene of the 1881 A.M.C. The Order Treasurer, Bro. James Scholfield, had intimated to the Board of Management his desire to resign from the office. It transpired, however, that he had been waited upon by the Ashton brethren, and persuaded not to do so. In the old days the prerogative of official appointments rested with the Ashton District, and probably it was felt that this office was a link with the past which should be retained as long as possible, as at this time nominations could be taken from any District. There was some very warm criticism of Ashton acting for the whole Order and practically, in a private way, attempting to usurp the duties of the Board of Management. Sheffield had put forward a candidate for the Treasurership in the person of P.C.S. John Brooks, who had served the Order so well as Parliamentary agent. Considerable feeling, however, as a sentiment remained for the maintenance of the association with the family of the Founder, as well as respect for James Scholfield over a long stewardship, and he was re-elected by 37 votes against 26 for John Brooks.

Joseph John Ellis, of Bristol, was the presiding Chief. His address was a masterly one, and embraced many topical subjects, as well as advocacy of various Order developments. Amongst these were the strong endorsement of a Superannuation fund so well raised by his predecessors; a Juvenile branch for every District as educational feeders of the Adult Lodges; the attachment of a Widows' and Orphans' fund to every branch to prevent members going to other Societies for the benefit; and a District supplementary Sickness Fund by quarterly levies on Lodges, so that when unable to pay sick benefits they could draw upon the pool, and so prevent raising contributions or reducing sick benefit, which were hard and unpopular steps. C.S. Ellis delivered also a powerful denunciation of the Compulsory Insurance Scheme "proposed by men who had tried to put obstacles in the way of Friendly Societies from their foundation."

In 1882, the A.M.C. visited the "Faithful City" (Worcester). Glasgow gave its first reception to the Order the year following, and the official report was a considerably abbreviated one. Chief reference

to the gathering will be found in the chapter on Scottish Shepherdry and Glasgow District. How to make an A.M.C. profitable was illustrated by Hanley in 1884. After payment of expenses, as the result of a popular gala, £100 was allocated to the District fund. James Scholfield this year resigned the Treasurership after a service of 43 years, and, as his successor, P.C.S. John Ward, of Leeds, was appointed by 35 votes against 29 for Bro. Wright Wood (Ashton).

The presiding Chief (Bro. W. H. Witts) said, in regard to the proposed superannuation of members at 65, according to Mr. Neison's tables, the premium was too high to secure a pension of 5s. weekly. If they fixed the age at 60 it would double the cost; if they took it to 70 the cost would be about half, but that would be of no use to the older men. Among urgent measures advocated, were graduated payments to funeral funds; Juvenile branches for the more efficient instruction of the young in the knowledge and practice of the grand principles of the Order; the establishment of a fund, by the levy of halfpenny per member per year, to assist distressed Lodges under the control of Officers and the Board of Management (it took 40 years to accomplish this); a printing office and the publishing of a monthly newspaper at a penny. It was also stated that a Lodge had been opened in Adelaide; a Shepherds' Benevolent Society in South Carolina wished to affiliate with the L.O.A.S., and an "Abel" Lodge, No. 1, was established in America (Falls of Schuylkill, Phil.).

C.S. Duncan Kennedy exhibited a distinguished presidency over the Bristol A.M.C. in 1885. He had recently recovered from a serious illness, but his advocacy, or otherwise, of different proposals before the meeting was of a characteristic robustness which he was destined to exercise with marked effect, a few years later, in the cause of financial reform. Lodges which would not be registered should be expelled, he declared, uncompromisingly. Later in the week the delegates supported his attitude by voting unanimously, and with cheers, that such drastic step should be taken after 31st December the same year.

The question of superannuation was again discussed. To the majority of members, said C.S. Kennedy, it would prove a delusion. Bro. Moses McKinnon, Glasgow, a future C.S., amplified the argument by saying such a fund had the drawback that 45 per cent of those who contributed to it could not hope to derive any benefit from it, and if a member died before reaching the age of 65 his widow and family received nothing from the money he had paid in.

The A.M.C. in 1886 was held at Sheffield. The question of the formation of Juvenile Societies was discussed with serious concern. The C.S., W. Ledsom, described them in pretty much the same terms as have been applied to the movement thirty-five to forty years later, as "the chief hope of the Order in the future." That was long before National Insurance rendered progress in this direction still more desirable, but little headway was made until recent years. C.S. Ledsom complained of the injustice that while Friendly Societies could not take in children under three years of age, profit-making collecting societies had the full privilege of doing so.

It has always been a puzzle to the Friendly Society mind why Governments have so persistently given privileges in this way to "vested interests," with no altruistic motive in their business, and denied the same freedom and right to voluntary thrift societies established on lines of mutual help and self-sacrifice.

At this meeting Chorley, in Lancashire, which, 35 years later, has made a spirited effort to revive and expand the Juvenile cause, was even then to the forefront with a resolution to Parliament demanding the right to accept as members children under three years of age. Glasgow, which became the greatest centre of Juvenile advance in the Order, seconded the proposition, which was agreed to by the Conference. The privilege, however, was long delayed.

P.C.S. John Ward, having served two years as Treasurer, resigned the office owing to other honours having been conferred upon Leeds District, and P.C.S. Thomas Hawkins, of Oldham, was elected.

The much talked-of Superannuation tables were added to the rules, and recommended for adoption, with little result. In regard to the origin of the Guide and Directory Bro. Witts, of Newport, had made the suggestion the previous year, and a committee was appointed to consider the proposal. The statistical matter in the Almanac had been condemned as unreliable, and the Committee reported in favour of a change, the signatories being W. Ledsom, C.S., R. Bradshaw, D.C.S., Jas. Farron, P.C.S. and Cor. Sec., and Duncan Kennedy, P.C.S. The last-named elaborated the scope of the publication, which was to be very comprehensive, and largely as handed on to the present day. It was decided that the "Guide" should be published in April each year, and sold, if possible, at 2d., the same price as had been charged for the Almanac. It was also agreed to publish the "Shepherds' Magazine" as a monthly.

GENERAL SECRETARIES AND OFFICIAL REPORTER.

Events and the years moved apace. The A.M.C. of 1887 was held in "The Peak" country, at Burbage, an outskirt of Buxton, and in the Chapel-en-le-Frith District. This was the first A.M.C. attended by P.C.S. Edwin Crew, as resident reporter, with a special commission from the Leeds, Liverpool and Manchester daily newspapers. It was two years later, namely, at Newcastle-under-Lyme, when he served as Official Reporter to the Conference, and he has not been absent from an A.M.C. since. His official work was coincident and ran side by side with the resignation and death of P.C.S. Jas. Farron, Gen. Sec., in 1889, the appointment of P.C.S. Duncan Kennedy as successor and his death eleven years later, the service of P.C.S. John McNicol as Gen. Sec. until his resignation on appointment as a National Insurance Commissioner for Scotland twelve years later and his death in 1920, the appointment of Bro. R. Kennedy (son of the late P.C.S. Duncan Kennedy) in 1912, and the succession of Bro. A. J. E. Saunders under a new scheme of management, as a supervising General Secretary, with assistant Secretaries R. Kennedy for the Voluntary Section and Denis M. Bowes for the State Section, in 1916, and up to the present time.

In 1888, at Dundee, a scheme of federation was agreed to by the Ashton and Wisbech Unities, the trite observation being made by Bro. Abbott, of Sheffield, that this was merely a courtship which it was hoped would lead to matrimony, as it did at Cardiff fourteen years later. The agreement as to federation was unanimous.

It was reported that Juvenile Societies were still developing ; Bro. Jas. Farron's resignation as Cor. Sec. was accepted and arrangement made for nominations as to his successor to be considered at the next A.M.C. ; and agreed, almost unanimously, to remove the Head Office from Ashton to Manchester, only nine votes being accorded against the change.

The year 1889, when the A.M.C. was held at Newcastle-under-Lyme, was signalised by some sad notes as well as optimistic departures. At the opening of the Conference P.C.S. Jas. Farron, who was to make his last appearance as official guide to his beloved Shepherdry, was reported to be very ill, and a resolution of sympathy with himself and family was sent to cheer him as a brotherly message. The illness proved to be mortal. He was on his death bed, and "laid down the crook" very soon afterwards. The appointment of a new General Secretary rested between two admirable candidates, namely, Bro. J. J. Ellis, of Bristol, and Bro. Duncan Kennedy, of Glasgow. Both were much respected and popular leaders, and each had served in the Chief Office. Bro. Ellis was an amiable personality, characterised by a suavity of manner and clear reasoning, touched with eloquence, in his deliverances. Bro. Kennedy had, however, more of the direct cut and thrust and relentless fighting power in his actions. The delegates were fairly evenly balanced in opinion as to the more suitable candidate for the office. It was a case of "I could be happy with either were t'other dear charmer away." Several incidents swayed the meeting in coming to a decision, and eventually, in view of the vigorous policy which it was felt must be pressed upon recalcitrant Lodges and Districts at this stage, in order to bring them up to the line of registration reform and financial improvement, it was decided by a majority of ten votes to place the destinies of the Society in the hands of the North British candidate, especially having regard to the splendid development of the Order in Scotland. Bro. Kennedy undoubtedly justified the choice then made by the Order. The opportunity of the West Country came 28 years later, when a Bristol member, in the person of Bro. A. J. E. Saunders, was chosen for the office.

The Head of Order, having been moved to Manchester, it was decided that the A.M.C. of 1890 should be held in that city to celebrate the event, and this came about with C.S. Geo. Abbott in the chair. Chorley was once more to the fore on the Juvenile question, Bro. J. Jolly moving the adoption of a Juvenile Emblem. A design was unanimously accepted, ten thousand copies to be ordered.

The A.M.C. of 1891, held at Greenock, C.S. Geo. Cromar presiding, was productive of several untoward happenings. The launching of the new lifeboat on the Clyde was a great success ; so also was a sail to Inveraray and the call upon local Shepherds there ; but a visit to the country Lodges of Inverkip and Skelmorlie had

a tragic ending. A delegate from Leeds, Bro. Enoch White, while at Wemyss Bay, ran a joyous race with several others, collapsed and died immediately. Further proceedings for the day were abandoned, and next morning, in passing a vote of condolence, the Conference made a special grant of £50 to the relatives. Legislation included a strong resolution of protest against the proposed Bill for compulsory insurance of old age pensions; also the obliteration from the records of the Order of the name of P.C.S. Witts for discreditable conduct in connection with an Order dispute at Newport.

C.S. Joseph Newsam presided in his home town of Leeds in 1892, when grave attention was drawn to the fact that a large number of Districts were in a decaying condition, notwithstanding that the Order, as a whole, was increasing its membership. These were chiefly in Lancashire, the very garden of the Friendly Society movement in its earliest days. Nineteen Districts were shown to have had a decrease of 2,817 in membership, and eleven Districts showed funds reduced by £4,740. The Valuer, P.C.S. Geo. Abbott, pointed out that this was due to the policy—or lack of it—in not providing proper reserves. They could not expect to make inadequate payments and then get benefits out of other people. It was agreed unanimously that the best policy was to publish particulars of the unfortunate branches, and face the matter fully, with a view to seeking the remedy. The General Secretary took pride in being able to report that out of a thousand Lodges, only one branch remained unregistered, and that was in process. In this respect the Shepherds stood alone among the Orders. It was a proud and justifiable boast. In 1893 a similar and complete record was reported.

At the 1893 A.M.C. the question of a Distressed District and Lodge Fund, based upon a levy of 2d. per member per year, was proposed by Hull, but unanimously rejected as one that would tend to prevent individual effort in the branches. (After the lapse of another quarter century that decision was reversed on the advocacy of P.C.S. Crew, of Leicester.) In this year the Ritual was revised after lengthy debates.

The meeting at Hull in 1894 was marked by tragic incidents. The C.S., Bro. Crawford, of Swansea, journeyed to the meeting, but was seized with a serious illness on Whit-Sunday, and was unable to fulfil the duties of presiding officer during the week. His place was taken by the D.C.S., George Alexander, of Perth, who read the address. In announcing his painful duty, he mentioned that this was emphasised by the fact that P.C.S. Newsam had died during the year, and that the Order Treasurer, P.C.S. Hawkins, of Oldham, had lost his wife, after a union of 43 years. A Ritual for the Juveniles was sanctioned.

This brings us to the Edinburgh A.M.C. in 1895, presided over by C.S. Geo. Alexander, on which occasion branches for Females were agreed to and the necessary tables adopted.

It is interesting to note that whilst the idea of Female branches, as legalised sections of the Order, was viewed with disfavour for a long time, and only with reluctance did the proposal develop, a

branch for Female members was opened at Rochdale sixty-six years earlier. On this question, as with others of vital moment, there were advanced minds in the earliest stages of the developing Society, when the first fields of progress were being cultivated.

THE SHEPHERDS' MAGAZINE.

On the celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of the inauguration of the *Shepherds' Magazine*, and the record of it in a "Jubilee Supplement," dated July, 1895, by the then editor, Bro. J. B. Archbald, P.P.C.S., it is opportune to briefly review its foundation and progress. The present journal was established as a Quarterly in the year 1845. There had been several previous attempts to promote such an organ, but without success. The first was by a Leeds printer—Bro. Alfred Mann—in 1837, but the proposed publication did not materialise. Two years later, in March, 1839, the issue was announced of *The Shepherds' Communicant*, to be published quarterly, price sixpence, and "devoted to the dissemination of practical knowledge, moral excellence and religion." The profits were to be devoted to the founding of a Widows' and Orphans' Fund. The promoters were over-sanguine, for even with this laudable object in view, the circulation of the first number, issued in January, 1840, reached only about 1,000 copies, but was increased to 1,500 with Nos. 2 and 3. With the cost at sixpence this was not a bad circulation out of a membership of less than 10,000, but it was not sufficient to justify the expense.

Meanwhile, in July, 1842, George Smith, William Leebridge and T. A. Phillips, all of Ashton, attempted the publication, as a private venture, of *The Shepherds' Journal*. This was to appear monthly, but it fell through with the bankruptcy of the printer, when the second number was in type. A more practical proposition came from Pontefract in 1843, when the District proposed that a magazine should be published by the Order, superintended by an editor and committee of management, and that every Lodge be compelled to take one copy; that no other like journal be permitted, and any member attempting, or supporting, such a publication be suspended from benefits. This was rejected two years in succession.

Thus it happened that when Samuel Adams, of Ashton, as presiding Chief, at Malton, in Yorkshire, in 1845, presented a series of resolutions from Ashton to authorise the establishment of a magazine, the Pontefract and other members, smarting under the defeat of their own project, strongly opposed the present proposal. There was an equal vote for and against, whereupon Bro. Adams gave his casting vote for the Ashton propositions. This was warmly resented, and the question was again put to the meeting, with a like result. Thenceforward the *Ancient Shepherds' Magazine* was issued, first as a Quarterly for 42 years, and afterwards as a Monthly, with varying fortunes, up to the present time.

The first editor was John Critchley Prince, a poet and writer whose talents were much esteemed in Manchester and district. He suffered many hardships in life, and, through adverse fortune,

while his soul shone brightly as a poet, he was never able to raise himself in material position beyond the level of the humblest artisan. Prince had a laudable desire to conduct the *Shepherds' Magazine* on excellent lines. In his own words, it was to be in character "straightforward, good-humoured, generous and honest." The terms of the introductory article were lofty and well phrased. Unfortunately, the Shepherds themselves did not realise what might be made of such an organ for their betterment. There was little about Shepherdry and its doings supplied for publication, and its pages were filled chiefly with Prince's own literary contributions. He ceased his connection with both the *Magazine* and Order in 1851, and died fifteen years later at the age of 58. Samuel Laycock, another Lancashire poet, wrote the following lines for his memorial card:—

"Farewell, thou gifted singer! Thy sweet songs
Have charmed the cares of thousands in our land;
Now, thou art gone, we feel that we have lost
One of the greatest of a gifted band.
Though thou art dead thy honoured name shall live
For ages yet to come; and thy pure lays
Be read and prized by myriads yet unborn,
And in their hearts, thy songs shall find a place.
His like again, alas! we may not see;
Few living bards have sung so well as he."

P.C.S. George Smith succeeded Critchley Prince as editor. His recreations were of an intellectual character, and his love of literature helped him in his task of filling the pages in the *Magazine* when the supply of Shepherd matter failed. He was an estimable Shepherd, of kind and homely disposition. His later life was beset by a succession of domestic bereavements, and he died broken in spirit, a lone and widowed man, on the 32nd anniversary of the Order for which he had striven faithfully and well for 30 years.

During his regime the character of the *Magazine* had shown little change, and he had the same complaint to make as had his predecessor as to the lack of support and encouragement from the membership.

George Smith retired from the editorial chair in 1856, and was followed by Bro. John Williamson, who was first an operative cotton spinner, but devoted his mind to the study of literature, and finally became successful in business as a printer, stationer and bookbinder. He joined the Shepherds at Ashton in 1843 and took an interest but not an active official part in the Order's work. For many years he published the *Shepherds' Almanack*, first as a private speculation and ultimately for the Order. He also printed the *Shepherds' Magazine* for a long time. After six years he relinquished the editorship, and died in his fifty-sixth year in August of 1862.

Bro. R. B. Brooks, his successor, was also a man of parts. A Mossley man, he commenced life as a mill worker, and was practically self-taught. He was a member of the Magazine Committee when appointed, and reigned through the years of growing reforms. Consequently he rendered great service through the *Magazine* as an educational factor. His chief offices were those of Pro. Cor. Sec., Order Trustee from 1868 to his death in 1891, postmaster, collector

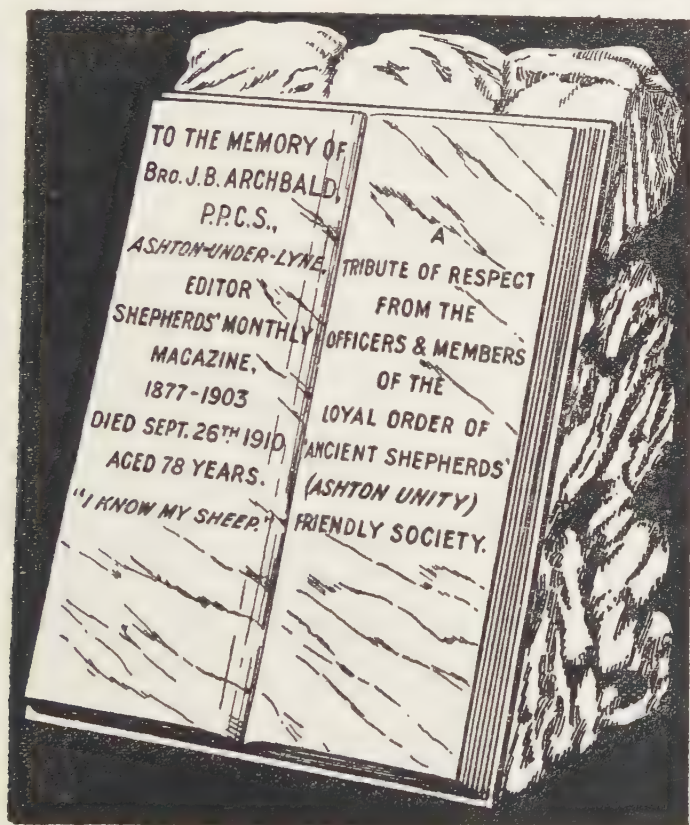
for the Local Board, of which he was ultimately chairman ; then councillor and alderman of the newly-incorporated borough. He resigned the editorship of the *Magazine* in 1877.

At the annual meeting held in Newport the same year, the late Bro. J. B. Archbald was elected. He was then employed in the office of the *Ashton Reporter* as a compositor, and all his life afterwards was connected with newspaper work, until his retirement owing to ill-health a quarter of a century later. His knowledge of the practical side of printing, as well as his literary ability, led to him receiving a broader trust in the work than any of his predecessors, and with his appointment the *Magazine* Committee was abolished. A series of portraits (steel engravings) were added to each issue of the journal. He mixed with the leaders of affiliated Societies in everyday life and at their social gatherings, and did much to cement the friendly feeling that prevailed among these organisations. His acquaintance with several of the founders of the Society and later leaders of eminence in the work, along with a study of the early records, gave him a knowledge of the Society's history which served him in good stead when writing the most complete record that had been published prior to the present time, through the pages of the *Shepherds' Magazine*. More than in all its previous history of over 30 years Bro. Archbald brought the *Magazine* to a standard and character which was originally intended, but never reached, namely, a magazine for chronicling the doings and progress, the history and excellence of Shepherdry as a Friendly Society. The production of the first key to the Order Emblem was due to him, and this also provided the groundwork for the key to the Emblem of Merit.

The *Magazine* was first published at 4½d. It was issued in varied forms and size as a Quarterly and then in 1887 as a Monthly at 2d. Finally, in 1891, the price was reduced to a penny. Bro. Archbald, in his day, gave most useful service through the *Magazine* and greatly enhanced its usefulness. He was succeeded by the present editor (P.C.S. Edwin Crew) in 1902, after 25 years' editorial work, and, in his declining days, as a recognition of his valued service, he enjoyed a pension from the Order until his death on September 26th, 1910, at the age of 78 years. A memorial stone of white marble was placed over his last resting place.

The present editor has conducted the *Magazine* within one year of Bro. Archbald's long record. Owing to the Great War, and the greatly increased cost of production, its fortunes have been more varied in size and pecuniary results, but at this time the *Loyal Order of Ancient Shepherds' Monthly Magazine* is promising to be of increasing usefulness, although it does not receive the full help and encouragement of its severest critics. It has been of greater service than the bulk of the rank and file has been willing to recognise at any time. Always there has been a courageous as well as idealistic outlook by the learned few among the leaders. Always there has been a praiseworthy effort to minister to the desires and uplifting of the mental outlook of the members. Equally true it is that in the pioneer days of the first half-century carping critics not only to a large extent withheld their sympathy and support, but measured

out ingratitude and censure when writers failed to meet their particular views. It is a wonderful circumstance, therefore, that the *Shepherds' Magazine* has survived criticism, disparagements and the storms of over four-score years, with rarely, if ever, a mead of praise for those who wrought through its pages for the weal of the Order during those early decades of its existence. The secret of its permanence has been, of course, the loyal support of the few who, in various ways, have been the leaders and prophets of the Order and its component branches. It is now becoming



recognised that the *Magazine* has been a valuable adjunct to propagandist efforts, especially in the reform days of the seventies, and onwards, that the dissemination of the ideas and doings of the better minds in different Districts has operated as a leaven that has made possible the progress and developments achieved from time to time. Notable successes have been made through the inspiration found in the actions and work of others in different parts of the kingdom, news of which has been conveyed through the pages of the *Magazine*, read by the loyal and intelligent few, and re-conveyed to the receptive members of the rank and file.

Shepherdry in the North.

The Society, at this date, having been established in Glasgow for quarter of a century and a little longer at Dumbarton, the development of this section of the Order may now be introduced.

In reviewing Scottish Shepherdry, it has been customary for many years to regard the "Pride of Leven" as the first Lodge of Dumbarton District, and the beginning of all the wonderful growth of the Order in North Britain. Dumbarton is well claimed to be the Mother District of Glasgow and several other Clydeside branches. Glasgow, in turn, may be described as the progenitor of all the rest of the Scottish Shepherds (except the Dumbarton branches), having grown to the dimension of premier District of the entire Order, and still retaining that proud position after parting with its several virile offshoots. As a culmination, Scotland as a whole boasts a membership rapidly approaching that of the rest of the Society in England, Ireland and Wales combined.

Again, the City of Glasgow Lodge claims to be the first branch formed in that great industrial centre. In a modern historical way, having regard to the branches that have been inaugurated since the year 1868, and which still exist as a homœgenus whole of Scottish Shepherdry, all the claims recited are justifiable and true. Yet there are qualifications of the general statement which require to be presented in the interest of strict historical accuracy.

Bro. John Maillie, the Glasgow District Secretary, pointed out in a review of the "H. M. Stanley" Lodge twenty years ago, that there were Shepherd societies in Glasgow before the Ashton Unity. He cited as instances "The Old Shepherds" about the middle of the eighteenth century, and "The Young Shepherds" a little over thirty years later.

It is not surprising to find the name of "Shepherds" employed in those early days, because then, much more than in the nineteenth century, shepherding and tilling the soil were the staple occupation of the people.

There could not, however, have been any association with, or regard for, those older societies in the title of the Loyal Order of Ancient Shepherds, for the idea and inspiration of the latter came from a loftier source than the mere occupation of shepherding.

While there were Shepherd societies in Glasgow, then, in the eighteenth century, they were shepherds only by name, and had no kinship with the Ashton Unity, either in conception or spirit. They might well have been, in the first place, not societies for general membership at all, but just combinations for mutual benefit of men actually employed upon the land.

Setting aside that consideration, there is a definite record of the existence of a branch of the Ancient Shepherds of Ashton Unity in Glasgow (and so the first members in Scotland) at least twelve months prior to the formation of Dumbarton District, with its initial "Pride of Leven" Lodge.

At the A.M.C. held in Sheffield during Whit Week of 1867, a delegate named W. M. Asher, P.M., was recorded as representing Glasgow. In 1868, when the Conference was held at Warrington—the year in which Dumbarton received its commission—Glasgow was reported as “not represented.” The same absence of a delegate was recorded in 1869, when the A.M.C. was held at Preston. In both 1868 and 1869 the Official Report gave the name of the Cor. Sec. for Glasgow as Norman McKay, of 1, Ardgowan Street, Kingston, Glasgow. Again, in the 1870 report, the name of Glasgow recurred in one of the financial tables, but the Cor. Sec. disappeared, and the District faded out of the records.

It is probable that that spasmodic branch was some small independent club which voluntarily associated itself with the Ancient Shepherds, or possibly it was a proselyte branch of some other Order, which afterwards found the distance from the Shepherd area of activity too great to maintain the interest of its members.

Neither the birth nor the death of this mysterious Glasgow District is revealed, but just the proof of its presence at one A.M.C. The absence of any succeeding representation is probably explained by the severance being effected after the 1867 A.M.C. and before the assembling of the next. No returns appear to have been made in those three or four years. Evidently the existence of the branch was unknown alike to Dumbarton in 1868 and to Glasgow in 1870, when the first Lodge in the city was formed, so that those Shepherds of 1867 may be regarded as a negligible quantity among the pioneers of Shepherdry in Scotland.

MCCULLOCH'S GIFT TO SCOTLAND.

It has long been a grim joke that a Scotsman, once he left his native heath and travelled south, was sure to make good in England, and “never went back.” Consequently, he never conveyed any of his good fortune to the land that bred him. Of course, it is a libel, but the sarcasm and humour of the statement, if there is any humour in it, has stuck to the escutcheon.

Such an allegation could not be made with regard to David McCulloch. His name is Scottish enough. It is possible, for aught we know, that he was born in England, off Scottish parents. But we are entitled to assume that he was Scottish born, and a’ that, while, contrary to the vile tradition, “he went back.”

True it is that he resided in Birkenhead, on the Cheshire side of the Mersey, and was a member of the Birkenhead branch of Ancient Shepherds. About the year 1867, possibly a little earlier, he went to work at Dumbarton—a Scotsman on Scottish soil once more.

David had acquired something in England which he considered to be “good,” and that was a knowledge of and participation in the romance and beneficence of Shepherdry. He had served the offices of his Lodge and District. Not lacking in zeal, and inspired by the missionary spirit, he focussed the attention of his fellow-workers upon the principles of this particular Friendly Society. Powerfully and persistently he advocated and agitated. He strove to establish

a Lodge in Dumbarton, as enthused with his mission as if it might have been one of the mightiest of levers for the social uplift of the common people. Indeed, that may well be claimed now that we know what the Friendly Societies have done for the kingdom during the past century.

Bro. McCulloch gradually won over friends and converts. With that shrewdness and appreciation of the maxim that "siller saved is siller gained," a Scottish attribute conceded all the world over, they recognised that the proposition pressed upon them contained the very essence of thrift, wisdom and common sense. They discussed arguments for and against in the cautious Scottish way, and finally agreed to embark upon the venture of opening a "Lodge."

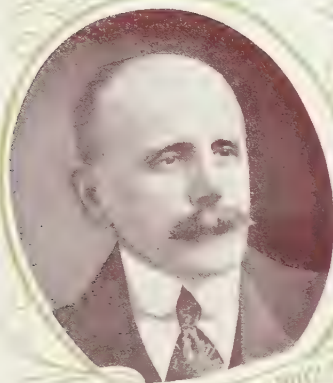
Let it be understood that, although David McCulloch went from Birkenhead to Dumbarton, this transplanting of the Order to Scotland was not an example of enterprise by Birkenhead District. The branch was neither created nor formally built up by the officials there, who were, nevertheless, interested in the step taken by Bro. McCulloch, and probably supplied forms and literature. It was a growth of its own, and it is all to the credit of Scotland that Shepherdry there was just as much a native effort as was the foundation of the movement in England.

Bro. McCulloch was a young man of only 29 years when the "Pride of Leven" Lodge was inaugurated at Dumbarton in 1868. Alas! his life of usefulness was lamentably brief. Whilst he had served Shepherdry up to the office of a Past Provincial Chief, and whilst he was prime mover in the foundation of the Scottish section, he did not live to view either the flower or taste the fruit of the plant which he had set there with such single-minded zeal. Three years later, on the 21st February, 1871, he was dead—cut off in the heyday of life—only 32 years old!

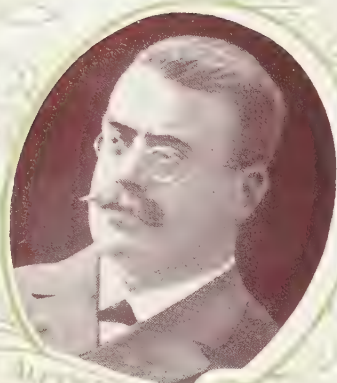
Scotland, at least, ought to revere the memory of David McCulloch. Dumbarton remembers. It has the record of his work always before its eyes, for the brethren raised a monument on his grave in the Cemetery there, and it cannot forget. But the finest monument of all, the beauty and majesty of which he could never have envisaged, grew out of his own unselfish concern in founding the "Pride of Leven" Lodge. That one branch has culminated in battalions of Ancient Shepherds in Scotland—Adults, Wives, Widows and Juveniles—nigh unto a hundred and forty thousand strong, with close upon a million pounds of accumulated funds in the Voluntary movement alone.

We are told that he who makes one blade of grass to grow where none grew before is a benefactor to his race. The sweetest perfumes come from the lowliest of flowers, and with some—like the lavender—that sweetness is greatest after death. The works of a good-souled man, however humble his station, grow and multiply, even after his passing, to bestow their blessing from generation to generation.

SCOTTISH CHIEFS



J. F. W. EVANS 1902-1910



J. A. SCOTT 1911



JOHN GRIEVE 1920



G. H. BUCHANAN 1910

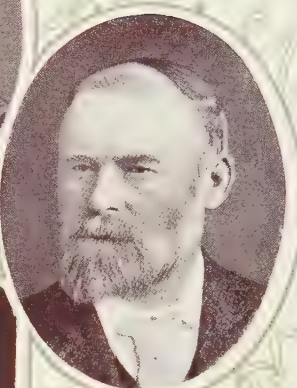


G. M. MCPHERSON 1910

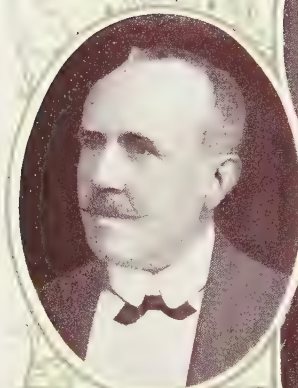
SCOTTISH CHIEFS



Jas. Allan, 1843



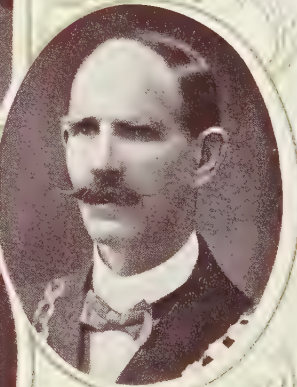
Geo. Alexander, 1845



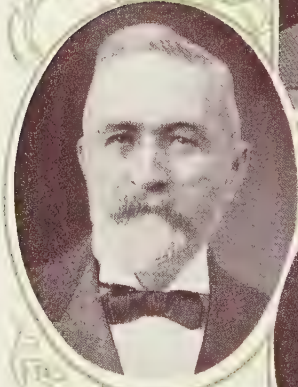
John Milne, 1901-13



Alex. Macdonald, 1909



James Dow, 1921



John Munro, 1907



Arch. M. Robinson, 1910

DUMBARTON DISTRICT.

"The Pride of Leven" Lodge was inaugurated in the Ancient Burgh of Dumbarton on the 4th May, 1868. There were ten members at the outset, including David McCulloch. John Melvin is first on the roll, and the others in succession are as follows :—John MacAlpine, Daniel Williamson, A. R. Stevenson, David McCulloch, Colin Campbell, John Miller, Arthur Dunn, Neil Brodie, and Hamilton Oliver. It will be noticed that David McCulloch gave place to some others, and in the actual joining is fifth on the book of membership.

Application for approval of the Lodge was made by a representative of Birkenhead to the A.M.C. at Warrington, which commenced its sittings on June 1st (Whit Monday), 1868, and permission was given for the establishment of both Lodge and District. David McCulloch himself was recorded as first Cor. Sec., his address being given as 9, Castle Street, Dumbarton.

The first Secretary, however, gave place in 1869 to John MacAlpine, of 23 Cottage, Park Street, who continued as Cor. Sec. for two years, but had removed in 1870 to 3, Church Street. He, in turn, was succeeded in 1871 by Peter Robertson, of Susannah Street, Alexandria, who retained the reins of office for six years. Five others have continued the line of Cor. Secs. up to the present time: John Tillery (1877-1901), Gabriel McAllen (1901-1916), William Smith (1916-1919), William Davie (1919-1924), and Thomas G. Clarke, who was appointed in 1924.

Those early officers and supporters did not allow the grass to grow under their feet, once they had firmly established the Mother Lodge, despite the difficulties that assailed them. Probably because of the difficulties they made progress, whereas an easier task might well have ended in extinction, after a temporary flare of success. In less than a year's time, to be exact, on the 27th March, 1869, the "Loyal Thistle" Lodge, No. 1390, was opened in the old Masonic Hall at Partick. That branch is now defunct.

Their next step, six months later, was to invade the Vale of Leven and establish the "Vale of Leven" Lodge at Alexandria, in September, 1869. That proved to be their most successful enterprise, for the "Vale of Leven" Lodge has, to-day, the highest membership next to the "Pride of Leven."

In 1870, "Lily of the Vale" Lodge was opened at Renton near by. The Clyde was crossed and the opposite coast invaded on the 3rd September, 1870, when the "Pride of Clyde" Lodge was opened at Port Glasgow. This was given the status of a District in 1871, with George O'Gilvie, of 2, Balfour Street, as Cor. Sec. Exactly three weeks later, the most momentous step in the life of Scottish Shepherdry was taken, that of opening the "City of Glasgow" Lodge, No. 1468, which was given the dignity of a District (along with Port Glasgow) at the next A.M.C. in Lincoln, 1871.

Thereafter, the leaders of Dumbarton District confined their missionary efforts to their own county. They opened, in succession, Lodges at Bronhill (1872), Clydebank (1874), Dumbarton "Heart and Hand" (1875), Jamestown (1876), Helensburgh (1882), Old

Kilpatrick (1883), Aberfoyle (1887), Strone (1888), Duntocher (1888), Radnor Park (1892), and Cullipool (1894). That is as they exist to-day. Several other Lodges were inaugurated, but these have either ceased to operate or have been merged. The District consists now of 14 Lodges, with an adult membership of 2,606 and £17,999 District funds, total funds amounting to £64,437, and a Juvenile Section numbering 3,160. The "Pride of Leven" membership is now 491 adults, 649 Juveniles, and funds respectively of £8,756 and £1,022.

Bro. Peter Robertson was the first Cor. Sec. to whose efforts any substantial increase of branches was due. He commenced with two Lodges, and in six years increased the number to seven. His son James continued the Robertson work in other offices. He is the present Treasurer of the District, and for a number of years has served as Secretary of the "Star of Leven" Lodge.

In Bro. John Tillery's period as Cor. Sec., the number of Lodges was increased to fourteen. He was a strong advocate of the Juvenile movement, and largely through his efforts he had the pleasure of seeing almost all the Lodges in the District with a Juvenile branch attached.

THE MOTHER LODGE.

Having dealt with the progress of the District, we may with interest return to the work and workers of the Mother Lodge. It had a chequered career, but was piloted through its early troubles by several able men who came to its assistance. It was a fortunate day when John Tillery joined the Lodge in 1869. Two years later he was appointed financial Secretary. He was not an orator, but possessed distinctive organising ability. The exercise of the latter was sadly needed to rescue the branch affairs from the chaotic state into which they had fallen. At that time the membership was 80 and the funds about £70. When he retired from the secretaryship in 1878, there were 206 members and £771 in funds. After having served as Pro. C.S., he had later taken up the permanent office of District Secretary.

His brother Andrew joined in the same year. He also possessed marked organising ability. The Lodge owed a great deal to the Tillerys. In his way, Andrew was somewhat of a character, besides being an enthusiastic worker. In addition to his normal service in the Lodge offices, he persuaded the Chief Shepherd in 1873 (Bro. E. Sendall, of Lincoln) to visit Dumbarton on a propagandist errand. The latter suggested the establishment of a Juvenile branch. In 1874 Bro. Andrew Tillery journeyed to Birkenhead at his own expense, interviewed the Cor. Sec. (Bro. Jos. Andrews) and brought back sample rules and hints for the commencement of a Juvenile branch. At the time of his death the resultant branch had about 700 members and £800 in funds. Among his many activities he organised a Crook and Plaid Fund, so that brethren could obtain regalia by easy payments; also a banner fund, for which he gathered subscriptions, but eventually so interested the late Bro. McMillan (shipbuilder) that he defrayed

the whole cost. Finally, Bro. Tillery was appointed as Secretary to raise the fund to erect a monument to Bro. McCulloch, the founder of Lodge and District.

Bro. Andrew Tillery was a great stickler for rules and ritual, and woe betide any who violated them. He always carried a copy of Lodge, District and General Rules with him, and silenced all opponents on any question by quoting chapter and verse for his contentions. He secured an increased rate of interest on investments and devoted his life to the advancement of the "Pride of Leven" Lodge. In his later years, when corresponding with the author, he was a prolific, not to say garrulous, writer, but one knew that he was a true man whose whole soul was possessed of Shepherdry.

In 1872 the brothers Allan—James and Ralph—joined the Lodge, and the latter was financial Secretary for a great number of years. During his term the membership rose to over 800, which was the high-water mark. The waters have receded somewhat since then, but the "Pride of Leven" has still the highest membership (between 500 and 600) in the District. This was mainly due to Bro. Ralph Allan's untiring efforts and his personal visitations to prevent lapsing. Bro. James Allan gained the highest position in the Order, that of Chief Shepherd, and he is noticed amongst "The Scottish Chiefs."

Of the older members who are still taking an active interest in the Lodge, Bros. Galbraith and McDiarmid may be mentioned as notable helpers in its upbuilding.

Bro. John Tillery we have already referred to, but his career and work are worthy of a little more testimony. His great service to the Lodge was recognised by a valued presentation. He served all the offices up to Provincial Chief, and transferred his energy and ability to the District Secretaryship in succession to Peter Robertson. The District then comprised seven Lodges and a membership of 930, with £474 funds. At his death there were fifteen Lodges, a membership of 3,500, with £3,516 in funds. To-day there is a considerable decrease in membership, but sixteen or seventeen times more in funds. Bro. John Tillery also was a strong advocate of Juvenile membership, and he had the satisfaction of seeing nearly all the Lodges in the District with a Juvenile branch.

We have attached special importance to the work of the "Pride of Leven" Lodge and Dumbarton District, because David McCulloch for Scotland was like the Thomas Scholfield of England, with Ashton town and Dumbarton Rock as the respective citadels and birthplaces of the two great sections of the Order. England lived through greater vicissitudes and more of next-to-death struggles, but the "Pride of Leven" and Dumbarton, in the words of the present Cor. Sec. (Bro. Thos. G. Clark) "had also their share of the stormy winds of adversity to withstand, and the work of the Tillerys (along with that of several others) made it easier for the present and future members to build upon." It has been a splendid heritage for Scotland, which owes a good deal of its subsequent progress and success to the tribulations of those who wrought before them.

THE McCULLOCH MONUMENT.

For an account of the raising and unveiling of the Monument in Dumbarton Cemetery, to perpetuate the memory of David McCulloch, we are indebted to the *Dumbarton Lennox Herald*, of 16th September, 1882. It was a Saturday afternoon, and the brethren of the Lodge, as well as representatives from Glasgow, Greenock, Port Glasgow, Motherwell, Helensburgh and the villages in the Vale of Leven, met at the Mission Hall (Lodge room) and paraded the principal streets of the burgh. "They were headed by the Dumbarton Burgh Academy Brass Band," the report states, "who played the Dead March in Saul, and the procession—the brethren being dressed in black clothes, with white ties and white gloves—was altogether marked by a considerable degree of solemnity, and excited much interest."

At the cemetery, Mr. Wm. Denny, of Bellfield, headed the Lodge Officers and Committee, and advanced to the stone. The monument, of white freestone from Giffnock quarries, is of the Gothic style of architecture and stands 17 feet high. On the front panel is the following inscription:—

"To commemorate the opening, at Dumbarton, of the 'Pride of Leven' Lodge of Ancient Shepherds, A.U. (the Mother Lodge of Scotland) on the 14th May, 1868, and the introduction of Shepherdry into Scotland by Bro. David McCulloch, P.P.C.S., who died 21st February, 1871, aged 32 years, and to whose memory this stone has also been gratefully raised by the brethren. Erected A.D. 1882."

On the right-hand tablet there is the Scriptural motto—"Blessed are those who sow beside all waters." On the left-hand tablet is the following inscription:—"The brethren of the 'Pride of Leven' Lodge have acquired the ground in front of this monument, where members dying without relatives, or in needy circumstances, may rest after the battle of life has been finished." The whole of the stone is embellished with symbolic carvings and appropriate inscriptions, including "Christus Noster Pastor." The sculptor was Mr. Geo. Galloway, of Glasgow.

The unveiling ceremony was performed by Mr. William Denny. He dilated upon the benefits of Friendly Societies as experienced among his own workpeople, and added that David McCulloch, a working man like themselves, was one who had resolved to do his very best to be helpful to his fellow-men. They found the Master of Christianity willingly, as His last act, filling the office of a servant, in washing the feet of His disciples, leaving to the future of the world a rite embodying one of the greatest ideas, and so purposed that men for all time might follow His example, and try in some way to be serviceable to their fellow men. Having unveiled the Monument, Mr. Denny handed over to Bro. Councillor Guthrie, as one of the trustees of the Lodge, the titles to three lairs on which the Monument stood.

We are largely indebted to the industry and patient research of Bro. T. G. Clarke, Dumbarton District Secretary, for verification of the vital particulars concerning his District. The account might easily be extended to a volume in itself.

Greenock District was formed in 1873, followed by Paisley in 1874. Chronologically, these were instituted three and four years after Dumbarton had planted the banner of Shepherdry at Glasgow, and thereby earned a distinction which will be remembered for all time as its crowning work of honour.

GLASGOW DISTRICT.

In the year 1871 the City of Glasgow Lodge received, from the A.M.C. at Lincoln, confirmation of its charter as a Lodge and District. The branch was actually opened on September 24th, 1870, so that when its fiftieth anniversary was celebrated on the 18th, 19th and 20th September, 1920, the event was accurately timed. In the Order Report for 1871, there appears as the first Cor. Sec. for Glasgow the name of James Camplew, whose address was given as Marn Street, off the Paisley road. That appears to have been only a temporary appointment, for the one who must be termed the first official permanent head, who wrought for and led the District in its initial steps, was John W. Hastie. There was also a Robert B. Hastie, whose name is No. 1 on the register of the City of Glasgow Lodge, the first Secretary of which was James Campbell. As the Lodge and District from Whitsuntide, 1871, were coincident, we do not know why there should have been different Secretaries at the outset, but we give the record as we find it.

It is not only possible, but quite probable, that the James Camplew mentioned as first District Secretary was a misprint, or misspelling in the Order Annual Report for the name of James Campbell, the City of Glasgow Lodge Secretary. For that reason we have printed the address of Bro. "Camplew" in order that the error (if any) may be traced.

As to the actual establishment of the City of Glasgow Lodge, it is safe to take the testimony of the late Bro. R. Hastie, who, about the year 1902, his own associations with the District fresh in memory, wrote to the late Bro. D. Arbuthnot (District Secretary) in the following terms:—

"Two or three of us from Dumbarton were employed in a shipyard at Govan (Messrs. Elder's), and we just thought we would make a start at Glasgow. So we wrote to the Dumbarton District for information. After that eleven of us met in Glasgow. Dumbarton District came up and opened the Lodge and 'made' us. They were very good to us and gave us all the help they could."

The Lodge was located at the Norfolk-street Hall, and the first officers appointed were Bros. Robert Officer, W.M., Daniel McColl, D.M., Robert Kelso, Treasurer, and James Campbell, Secretary. The officers who attended from Dumbarton to perform the opening ceremony were Bros. Thos Ewing, Pro.C.S., John Paterson, P.D.C.S., Robert Campbell, Dist. Treas., and Peter Robertson, Dist. Sec. There were also present other members of the Mother District, including Bro. J. W. Hastie (working in Glasgow), Bro. Robert Hastie (who was too ill to attend the Jubilee and has since "laid down the crook"), and Bro. Archibald Forrest, Pride of Leven Lodge (who was responsible for getting names for the first initiations). The Campbells were much in evidence.

These included James (the Lodge Secretary), Robert (Dumbarton Dist. Treasurer), and Joseph, also one of the pioneers of the City of Glasgow Lodge. Bros. Robert Gaw, James Ewing and William Moss have been named as members similarly distinguished. Ex-Bailie John Muir, said to be a foundation member, took part in Glasgow Jubilee celebration and is still alive. The branch, out of which evolved such a wonderful development of Shepherdry in the North, was not reared without considerable solicitude on the part of its first officers and members. Some became discouraged and thought it would never succeed. Those were dismal pessimists. But the others—the members of more optimistic spirit—ignored the lapsings as a deterrent, faced the uphill work, economised expenditure by unusual personal services, and strove like the pioneers and missionaries who have always won through whenever any great work has been projected and accomplished. Commenting upon the statement of Bro. R. Hastie, Bro. Arbuthnot wrote:—

“Dumbarton District is the home of Shepherdry in Scotland, and Bro. Hastie and his comrades, when they came to Glasgow, brought with them that missionary spirit which has made not only Shepherdry, but other Friendly Societies, such a force in the land.”

The Glasgow District, which, in the first year's working, was comprised of one Lodge, 17 members and £10 14s. funds, had 10 years of slow progress, but emerged on the eve of Jubilee with a record of having paid in benefits £830,000 and established an accumulated fund of £410,000. As to membership, there existed a surviving army in Glasgow and its outstretching arms, or branches, in the rest of Scotland, no less than 131 Lodges, 38,000 adult members and 41,000 Juveniles in the Voluntary Section, and 50,000 members in the Approved Society to whom State-insured sickness benefit was administered. In regard to the latter, a remark of the present District Secretary, Bro. J. Maillie, quoted at the Glasgow Jubilee, is worthy of repetition:—

“Compulsory insurance is good, but Voluntary insurance gives greater satisfaction to the desire for independence.”

The line of District Secretaries who wrought for the Glasgow Shepherd hosts through that long and distinguished march of fifty years, and on to the Centennial anniversary of the Order, includes the following, after the first complete year of 1871:—John W. Hastie, 1872-3-4-5-6; James W. Ewing, 1877; then J. W. Hastie again for one year, 1878; followed by Duncan Kennedy until 1889, when he was appointed Secretary to the Order; O. H. Kennedy, 1890-1; David Arbuthnot, 1892 until his death in 1912; when his assistant, Bro. Joe Kant, carried on until 1917 in the throes of a task complicated by National Insurance. He was succeeded by Bro. John Maillie, the present capable and valued guide of the fortunes of the District.

Glasgow has done more than shaped its own magnificent growth. Its representatives have played a worthy part in directing the course of the Order in its modern developments. Perhaps the greatest mind—a missionary as well as a consolidating power—after the first decade in its career, was that of the late Duncan Kennedy. As District Secretary he was not in harness until 1878,

but at the A.M.C. in that year we found him, a delegate from Glasgow, strongly protesting against the action of the Board of Management in ruling that the Glasgow scale was too high. This, he said, was going to cause a lot of trouble. At the very beginning, he pointed out—

"We loyally adopted a graduated scale as passed at the Bristol A.M.C. Our grievance is no mere sentimental one. For the past five years we have been pushing the Order in the West of Scotland as much as we possibly could. A few years ago we had only three Lodges, with 61 members, and now we have eleven Lodges with a membership of 1,200. That is real progress, but not so much—(here came the words of a prophet)—as it will be in the future. We have a Lodge in Edinburgh, and I trust we shall go on spreading Shepherdry in Scotland. If we are to adopt the suggestion of the Board of Management, it will seriously mar our progress and prevent us getting new members. Our contributions are as high as others and our benefits not quite so high. It seems a little inconsistent to say our contributions are low and our benefits high."

Bro. Kennedy went on to argue the points at issue in detail, and meeting the statement that the Board declined to sanction the Glasgow scale in order to prevent them committing suicide, he pointed out they were paying higher contributions than other Societies in Scotland. The Glasgow scale was approved by a large majority, and after events revealed the wisdom of the Conference. Bro. Kennedy promised that in a few years' time the A.M.C. would be invited to Scotland, when they would show the work they had done there.

In 1882, at Worcester, Glasgow having planted the Ulster Shepherds' Lodge at Belfast, as a matter of urgency permission was unanimously given to open a District there. The following year Glasgow's first A.M.C. was held, and the District proceeded to prove its initiative, energy and importance. Unfortunately the A.M.C. had decided to do away with the usual verbatim report, so that not much information is available. We find, however, that for a District only thirteen years old the event was a distinguished one. Glasgow Green on Saturday was alive with the component elements of a United Friendly Societies' demonstration, which paraded the city fifteen thousand strong. Besides the Shepherds of Glasgow and other parts of Scotland, there were Oddfellows, Foresters, Free Gardeners, St. Andrew's Free Gardeners and Rechabites in long lines, displaying a glorious co-operation and brotherly spirit. The jubilant army of thrift, with Bro. Duncan Kennedy as the dominating spirit, marched to the recreation ground of Queen's Park. Mr. Thos. Russell, of Ascog, presided, and spoke inspiring words, with the approval of other public men assembled.

"Stick to your wonderful Unity, compared with the differences of politics and religion," he said. "Radical and Conservatives may lay aside all their differences here and go hand-in-hand. Here the heat of religious discussion is evaporated, and all are able to unite on the broad basis of common humanity, and realise a practical and effective Christianity in visiting and assisting the poor, in tending and comforting the sick, in relieving the distress of the widows and orphans, and in alleviating sorrow and suffering in the darkest and most dismal hours. In such Societies the selfish man has no part."

The multitude were greatly stirred by these words, which are only a brief summary of the noble sentiments uttered. At St. Andrew's Church on Whit Sunday, the Rev. Dr. F. L. Robertson preached on the Christian aspects of frugality and forethought. On

Monday, the Lord Provost Ure honoured the business assembly, under the presidency of C.S. E. Mayson, with a civic welcome. They were met in the Merchants' Hall.

From that year onward, Glasgow and Scottish Shepherdry has always been a vital force in the deliberations of the Society. In 1884 the presiding Chief referred to—

"The officers of Glasgow, in their A.M.C. year, having visited Dundee and opened the Crook and Plaid Lodge there with 74 candidates for initiation and the promise of 30 others at the next meeting. Since then six or seven other Lodges had been opened in the town and District, and in eighteen months they had nine Lodges with over 1,000 members, so that they now applied to be constituted a District."

That, at least, was an example of the vigorous transplantings of branches of the Order in Scotland. In 1885, Bro. Duncan Kennedy had become Chief Shepherd, and the General Secretary, James Farron, spoke of him to the Annual Meeting as—

"A noble and spirited man; he has worked hard for Scottish honour; and there seems to be a strong rivalry—a rivalry of love—between the Scotch and the Bristol brethren, as to which should be A1 in the Order. Bristol has done admirably, and numbers 9,000. Scotland has extended its operations, even to Ireland."

In 1886, Glasgow, through its representative, Bro. Kennedy, was instrumental in framing and instituting the *Guide and Directory* of the Order in place of the previous almanac. And so on, all through the chapter, its representatives at succeeding A.M.C.'s have proved themselves to be amongst the most talented of delegates, taking a very prominent part in the deliberations of the Annual Parliament of Shepherds.

Beginning with Bro. Duncan Kennedy (1885), it has given other distinguished Chiefs to the Society in the persons of Bros. Moses McKinnon (1898), A. F. McEwen (1902-3-14), Alex. Scott (1911), Geo. Eaglesham (1919), Carrick McDonald (1923) and John Grieve (1926). Offspring Districts of Glasgow have added three other Chiefs, namely, Bros. Geo. Alexander (Dundee), John Milne (Aberdeen, twice), Alex. Mackie (Edinburgh) and Jas. Dow (Aberdeen). The rest of Scotland has provided four Chief Shepherds in James Allan (Dumbarton), John McNicol (Greenock), John Munro (Dumbarton), and Archibald Robinson (Greenock).

It has been claimed that there is not in the whole of the Friendly Society movement a single cohesive, decentralised District, comprising so many Voluntary members and so great a value in accumulated funds, as that of the Glasgow Shepherds. The marvel of its development is found not only in its self-contained strength, but also in the fact of its highly-prosperous offshoots, which, in combination, represent the dominant Friendly Society in Scotland. At the end of the year 1925 the returns show, for Glasgow District alone, a Voluntary membership of 38,727 adults, 8,451 wives, 1,486 widows, 52,892 juveniles and £380,281 in accumulated funds. The District's degree of solvency at 1920 was 20s. 4d. in the £. There are also 48,000 members insured for State sickness benefits. It became the premier District so far back as 1887, two years after the formation of an Extension Committee, and seventeen years after the establishment of the District, thus relegating the Bristol, Bath

and Western Counties District to the position of second largest in the Order, with Edinburgh and Leith, Aberdeen and the City of Newcastle each following close upon its heels.



In the development of Glasgow District the adoption of distinctive processional regalia—a tartan shawl, fastened with a buckle and jewel on the left shoulder, a Tam o' Shanter bonnet and the carrying of long crooks—no doubt played a potent part. It "caught on," and the happily-devised dress was adopted by all the Shepherd branches in Scotland. For this innovation in 1882, agreed to (for some unexplained reason) only after strong opposition, the late Bro. Moses McKinnon, P.C.S., was chiefly responsible. The popularity of the society in the north country grew out of the regalia, perhaps, more than from any other cause, except the zeal and enthusiasm of the rank and file as well as their leaders. It was also an attractive feature whenever the Scotch delegates journeyed south of the Tweed. Twenty years later the female members—or Shepherdesses—adopted a similar regalia. Shepherds in miniature, Juvenile members, followed in the wake of their fathers until the garb became universal.

The late Bro. Arbuthnot paid tribute to the influence of the Plaid and Tammy, in his review of the Districts' growth close upon quarter of a century ago. He wrote:—

"When thousands of our members marched out in this heart-warming garb people wanted to get closer to us, and we were always willing to take them in. About this time the sons of members began to 'jine the Ludge,' and their fathers had to step to the right to make room for them."

When the Juvenile Society was started and controlled by the members of the District, so far as the law of the land permitted the association, this movement was also a success. The Friendly Societies' Act of 1896 gave more direct control, and members were then taken over to the number of 10,000, of whom 4,000 were girls. Glasgow's success in this movement, compared with other parts of the Order, has been phenomenal; and such awakening as has been experienced in southern areas, particularly in recent years, has been largely due to the inspiration drawn from the achievements of Glasgow and other Scottish Districts.

They were always alert in propaganda work and in marching with the times. Females were not only admitted to membership, but to a full participation in the privileges of the Order.



Up! the Crook & Plaid.

The Duke of Portland Lodge, at Kilmarnock, was a pioneer in permitting Juveniles to meet and conduct their own ordinary business. It was Glasgow, again, which introduced Juvenile tables, and proved the success of the experiment of providing funeral benefits for a halfpenny per week equal to those for which Insurance Companies charged a penny.

There is not a great deal of special readable interest or value to be found in the early District records, but one act of the Committee will be regarded as unique by Southern Shepherds. On October 12th, 1878, Bro. Tate ("Lord Clyde" Lodge) proposed and Bro. Stevenson ("Alexander Waddell" Lodge) seconded—

"That we purchase two lairs in one or other of the cemeteries; and it is expected that this ground will form the centre around which Lodges may, if they choose, purchase ground also. Further—That the ground so far be vested in the District Officers, with the Trustees, for the time being."

In these days that would be regarded as an "additional benefit." There was a later decision by the District enabling the Officers and Trustees in charge of the ground to—

"Reserve to themselves the right of burying any of the deceased members of the Order, or District, where circumstances justify."

Thus there was formed a kind of Westminster Abbey for burial purposes only. This provision for the burial of brethren of poor degree was followed four years later by the Mother District at Dumbarton, when raising and dedicating a monument to the memory of the pioneer of Shepherdry in Scotland.

Glasgow's Executive governing body, supplementing the four ruling officers, was appointed in 1892, when what was known as the Extension Committee, formed in 1885, ceased to exist. The Order of Shepherds is admittedly indebted to Glasgow and Scottish sections for much of its revived vigour. On the other hand, Glasgow—and we only give the city pride of place over the Mother District because of its greater growth—owes almost everything, beyond its own business acumen, common sense and energy, to the Shepherds of England, who went through the throes of birth, growth, contention, disaster, battlings for reform and their very existence as an Order right up to the day when a vital fragment of Shepherdry went over the border to start the flame and a new birth that was to spread the movement all over Scotland.

Scotsmen had no splanetic struggle over the question of "wet rents," for Lodges were established free of the public-house at the beginning. Graduated payments, registration, systemised book-keeping, annual returns for valuation purposes had not to be fought for; they were adopted at the outset as the signs of wisdom. Thus Scottish Shepherds were enabled to recognise and avoid mistakes and difficulties of the past. They profited by this early knowledge to their own uplifting and success. The offspring branches of the Great District, each a credit to and the pride of its forebears, were Edinburgh and Leith, formed in 1880; Belfast (Ireland), in 1882; Dundee, in 1884; Aberdeen, in 1889, a granddaughter through Dundee; and Fifeshire, in 1900.

Edinburgh and Leith District had, at the end of 1924, Lodges, 31; Voluntary Members, 7,465; total funds, £97,520; Juveniles, 7,342; State Members, 9,164. It is responsible for advocating the Individual Account system and the resolution for the amalgamation of small branches. It has had one Chief Shepherd.

Dundee, with 19 Lodges, has 3,563 members; £92,033 18s. 6d. total funds; 2,352 Juveniles, and 8,394 State Members. One Chief Shepherd.

Aberdeen (out of Dundee in 1889), has 27 Lodges, 7,346 members, £82,968 total funds, 6,547 Juveniles and 13,349 State Members. Two Chief Shepherds.

Fifeshire, 22 Lodges, 2,865 members, £20,892 total funds, 3,434 Juveniles and 3,459 State Members.

Greenock, 12 Lodges, 1,165 members, £22,848 14s. total funds, and 1,871 Juveniles. Two Chief Shepherds.

Paisley, 8 Lodges, 1,817 members, £29,035 12s. 2d. total funds, and 1,503 Juveniles.

In the two latter Districts the State members are merged with those of the Clyde area, which numbers 6,610 members.

IRELAND.

The establishment of Shepherdry in Ireland—to be exact, at Belfast—was also due to Glasgow District. The opening ceremony of the "Ulster Shepherd" Lodge, was performed by Bros. Tough, P.P.C.S., and Tait, D.P.C.S. (Glasgow), on July 22nd, 1882. "The Star of County Down" was established in December the same year. "The Shepherds of the Brun," at Banbridge, followed in May, 1883. It was changed to "Covenant of Peace," but dissolved the year following. The "George Abbott" was opened in 1890; the "Ormeau" in 1891; "Sir Richard Wallace," 1891; and the "Shaftesbury" the same year. The latter was amalgamated in 1916 with the "Ulster Shepherd." In 1891 the "City of Belfast" was opened, but dissolved four years later, the members transferring to other Lodges. The "Star of the West" was established in 1896; and a Lodge for Females, called "Pride of the Down," was opened in 1897; but in 1900 the Rules were amended to admit females into all Lodges, the latter amalgamated with the "Star of County Down." The "Ballynafeich" was opened in 1901. This was dissolved in 1906. Juvenile Branches to the different Lodges were also established. The highest District membership was reached in 1906, when there were 1,043 adults, with £2,054 in funds, and 423 Juveniles. At the end of 1924 the adult membership in six Lodges had decreased to 676, while the funds were £9,477; and the Juveniles numbered 612. Bro. A. McCowatt was the first District Secretary, and he has had five successors, including Bro. Thomas Wright, the present Secretary. The latter explains the lack of progress in Belfast Shepherdry, by saying it has been "hampered by the curse of party politics, Ulster being the cockpit for the various contending sections." However, the outlook is now much brighter and greater progress is expected in the future.

GENERAL CHRONICLES RESUMED.

In 1896 the Assistant Secretary (Bro. R. Kennedy) attended the A.M.C. as Minute Secretary, to obviate an appointment from the "floor of the house" each year. Under the new Act, it was agreed to admit Juvenile members from the age of one year, with full benefits provided as adult members at age 16.

In 1897 a proposition by Bro. Geo. Abbott (Sheffield) to establish an Accident Compensation Fund up to £50, by a levy in each case, was rejected.

In 1898 the A.M.C. visited Belfast, where it was agreed to admit females to male Lodges under certain restrictions.

In 1899, at Aberdeen, the delegates approved State-aided pensions for members of Friendly Societies. General Rule 4 was amended at the same conference making the conditions of secession more stringent in the interest of loyal members.

In 1900 the A.M.C. was held at Bristol for the fourth time. Bros. Thomas Hawkins, Grand Treasurer, and Duncan Kennedy, General Secretary, had both died during the year.

1901. The A.M.C. was held at Glasgow, where Bro. John McNicol was appointed General Secretary and Bro. Geo. Cromar, Grand Treasurer.

1902, at Cardiff. Savings branches were sanctioned, also insurance for funeral benefits only.

1903, at Chorley. Bro. A. F. McEwen presided as C.S. for the second year in succession. The Treasurer was appointed as a permanent officer, with a seat on the Executive Board. It was decided that hosts of public-houses should not be treasurers of branches, and the establishment of new Lodges in public-houses was prohibited, except where there was no other meeting place available. Unanimous decision to abolish "wet rents." Juvenile branches to be brought rigidly under control of the Order. A new Head Office was acquired in Oxford Road, Manchester.

1904, at Hanley. Complete revision of rules. Secession of over 6,000 members through enforcement of new rule as to Juveniles.

1905, at Dumbarton. Decrease of adult membership 848, increase of Juveniles 1,465, gain in funds of over £63,000. Bristol carried a resolution embodying insurance for funeral benefit only up to age fifty years.

1906, at Pontypridd. Decrease of 895 adult members, increase of 1,323 Juveniles.

1907, at Dunfermline. Five Districts seceded; net loss 447; Juvenile increase 790.

1908, at Wrexham. Bro. David John, the first Welsh Chief Shepherd to preside on Welsh soil. Agreed to permit centralised sickness funds in Districts on the same basis as funeral funds. A proposed Distress fund for branches from the Executive was rejected two years in succession on the ground that it would be more demoralising than helpful.

1909, at Worcester. Adult membership decreased by 1,867 ; Juveniles increased by 1,869 ; considerably over a million pounds in funds. Bro. S. Hudson succeeded Bro. Geo. Abbott as Valuer.

1910, at Paisley. Decrease of 965 adult members ; increase of 7,089 Juveniles.

1911, at Swansea. Decrease of 55 adults ; increase of 5,857 Juveniles.

STATE INSURANCE.

This historical record is not designed to include any review of the National Health Insurance scheme in detail, except so far as it has been linked up with Shepherdry as an " Approved Society." The State scheme was intended chiefly to supplement the operations of Friendly Societies, which, through varied fortunes, had revealed not only dangers to be avoided, but the beneficence of their matured method. Several millions of workers had not been drawn within the pale of the Voluntary movement and many, as a consequence, in the day of sickness and necessity, resorted to the Poor Law for relief. To avoid this unfair burden upon the thrifty, the compulsory insurance scheme was enacted. Friendly Societies were thereby paid the compliment of imitation, whilst their growth was in a degree hindered by the competition. But not wholly so. Their activities are being gradually turned into new avenues, which had previously been neglected. After being resented, and even combatted for a time by some sections of the movement, State insurance is now largely worked as a " sideline " of, or as a form of co-partnership with, the Voluntary Societies. It is interesting to record that while one of the largest Societies refused at the outset to assist the Chancellor in formulating his scheme, the Shepherds and others as cordially agreed to co-operate.

The masses of the present generation have not been distinguished for their study, or even reading, of political history ; consequently, it was assumed, sixteen or seventeen years ago, that the Chancellor had evolved something new ; that he largely borrowed his idea from Germany ; and then, in consultation with the leaders of Friendly Societies, modelled his project upon the British method. It is satisfactory to realise, to-day, how Shepherds avoided the dog-in-the-manger policy, and took the broader course of helping to formulate the National scheme. As already stated, at their Worcester A.M.C. in 1909, the delegates were given a lead by the Executive, and, by a unanimous vote, decided to " join the Chancellor in consideration of his scheme of insurance against sickness and invalidity, thereby bringing the Society to the front in the movement."

It was not always so. The compulsory insurance stew-pot was set simmering between forty and fifty years ago, but the cooks were by no means successful and their operations were wholly denounced by the Friendly Society leaders. Even earlier still, in 1864, there was a decisive protest against the Chancellor of the Exchequer for his attempted competition with Friendly Societies

by introducing a Bill to provide annuities and insurance by instalments for and sums up to £100 at death.

In 1880-1 the Rev. W. L. Blackley and a Mr. J. S. Randell strongly advocated the Government taking up National Insurance, every young man of seventeen to be compelled to pay 1s. 6d. per week until he was 21 years old, for which the Government was to guarantee 8s. weekly in sickness and a 4s. pension at age 70. It was thus sought to make every male provident by Act of Parliament, because, forsooth, "a number of Friendly Societies had broken up and others were in a bad state." The Lord Mayor of London, several Peers, a number of M.P.'s, clergymen and even representatives of large Friendly Societies met at the Mansion House to discuss the question of National Thrift. There was a cut-and-dried resolution that "for the better protection of the savings of the poor the law should prohibit the establishment, in the future, of any Friendly Society without due actuarial certification as to the adequacy of the tables of contributions." Further, "that it is desirable to use the existing machinery of the post office for providing on sound, economical principles a cheaper, safer and simpler means of industrial insurance than at present exists."

Among those who spoke in favour of this scheme were Lord Lynton, Mr. Slater Booth, M.P., and Earl Nelson. All were professedly reluctant, however, to upset existing Friendly Societies, while it was even admitted in one case that the 1875 Reform Act should be given a fair trial. A powerful denunciation was levelled at these lordly friends of the workingman by the late Bro. J. J. Ellis in his address as C.S. in 1881. Even the Earl Carnarvon, speaking in the House of Lords in 1880, it was pointed out, was struck with the notion of the Government carrying out the work of compulsory insurance. Bro. Ellis said these gentlemen would have been of more use had they come forward to help when Friendly Societies were first being established. On the other hand, Mr. Ludlow, the Registrar, in his report for 1876, admitted that the Friendly Societies had men of actuarial knowledge and skill within their own ranks, especially instancing Mr. Ratcliffe, of the Oddfellows.

Nothing came of the agitations then, but four years later, another Chief Shepherd, in the person of Bro. Duncan Kennedy, referred to the question again coming to the front through Sir Herbert Maxwell, a "henchman of Canon Blackley." Bro. Kennedy described it as a delusion, a snare and a dangerous principle to "place the onus of responsibility upon the State where the responsibility of the individual should be." Workingmen had no wish to be subsidised by the wealthier classes, he declared. It would not be economy, for of seventeen millions expended under the Poor Law, only nine millions went in direct relief of the poor. These words expressed the views and the spirit of the times amongst the working-classes.

At the next A.M.C. in 1886, C.S. Ledsom continued the denunciation of State Insurance, and among chief speakers on the topic were Bros. D. Kennedy and Moses McKinnon, who saw little beyond absurdity, humbug and "interested motives" in the

proposal. In 1887 and 1888 presiding Chiefs Richard Bradshaw and Wright Wood continued the tale of protest. At this time a report was expected from a Committee of the House of Commons on the proposed scheme. The Greenock A.M.C. in 1891 again passed a resolution of strong protest against Mr. Jos. Chamberlain's Bill for compulsory insurance of old age pensions. The following year, at Leeds, it was described as "an infamous scheme," absurdly inadequate, and it was further claimed that, if such a project became law, it should be controlled by those who found the money. At the same meeting, delegates were moved to provide a domestic scheme, but eventually the pious decision to do for their own members what was resented as a Government proposal, failed from inanition. A resolution in favour of providing old age pensions at 60 and 65, with premiums returnable if a member failed to reach the qualifying age, was proposed by the late P.C.S. Moses McKinnon, of Glasgow, and P.C.S. Edward Sage, of Bristol, and unanimously agreed to. It was delegated to the Executive to prepare tables. The following year the matter was deferred; again, in 1894, it was deferred. At the A.M.C. of 1895 it was lost sight of altogether, probably because the proposed Governmental Bill had also disappeared. No other serious proposal of compulsory insurance came to agitate the Friendly Society world, until Mr. Lloyd George's more workable scheme was placed before the country, and eventuated in the Act of Parliament which established Insurance Committees, administration by "Approved Societies," and control by National Health Insurance Commissioners, succeeded later by the Ministry of Health.

Shepherds, having realised the inevitability of National Insurance, have every reason to be proud of the sane policy adopted and the Society's association with the formulation of the scheme. The Chancellor sought the aid and advice of the Friendly Societies in their collective capacity. It happened that the late P.C.S. John McNicol, General Secretary, of the Shepherds was also Secretary at this time to the National Conference of Friendly Societies, and so came directly into the consultations. For his services he was created a Commissioner for Scotland for the administration of the Act. This was a signal honour to the Society which was not fully appreciated by some of the more envious of the Shepherd leaders, who were inclined to be critical of the measure for State Insurance. That antagonism has never wholly died out.

In 1912, the Order of Shepherds, having decided to become an "Approved Society," held a special meeting at Manchester, in March, to "set its house in order." The task was a difficult, not to say bewildering one, owing to the inexperience of most of the local officers. Bro. John McNicol resigned the General Secretaryship on his appointment as Commissioner, and Bro. R. Kennedy, his assistant, took up the work. The D.C.S. (Bro. Doig) and P.C.S. (Bro. A. Scott) also resigned to become lecturers under the Insurance Act. At the subsequent Whitsuntide A.M.C., held in Dundee, Bro. Robert Kennedy was unanimously appointed General Secretary, and Bro. D. M. Bowes, Assistant Secretary. Bro. John Milne, in the emergency was elected C.S. (for the second time), owing to there

being no nomination for the office. The Secretarial report showed an increase of 4,511 adult members and 3,759 Juveniles, with funds now totalling £1,248,634.

The Shepherds, in common with every other Friendly Society, from the largest to the smallest organisation, had their troubles of adjustment to the new order of things. The task was almost overwhelming, and there was much difference of opinion as to the best method to adopt. Most decidedly, as after events proved, the best course was the boldest, regardless of cost for the time being. This was the view of the presiding Chief (Bro. J. Milne), along with his Executive, and led to an unusual convulsion at the Keighley A.M.C. in 1913. The Executive insisted upon the drastic change, as to Head Office organisation, of appointing separate Secretaries for both Voluntary and State sections of the work, retaining Bro. R. Kennedy for the Voluntary section, in regard to which he had had a lifelong experience, and Bro. D. M. Bowes for the State side, to deal with which he had gone into training under the Order's professional emergency accountant (Bro. Marriott). A large "bone of contention" was fought over in the proposal to appoint above the two departments a supervising General Secretary. The latter office, unfortunately, meant overriding the position of the existing General Secretary, which the Executive regarded as an unavoidable contingency.

This revolutionary proposal was placed before the A.M.C. by the C.S. (John Milne) with uncompromising boldness. The scene that ensued was not merely a convulsion, it was unexpected, unprecedented and destined to become historic. One-half the Conference week was expended in dealing with this and contingent troubles. The Executive were outvoted by the Conference, which sustained the Gen. Sec. in his office under the existing arrangement. Thereupon the presiding Chief and the Executive resigned in a body, on the ground that those who refused their proposed reorganisation of procedure, and stood by the old-time method of working, should take the responsibility of its failure to meet the new and developed obligations. Time after time the Executive were requested to reconsider their drastic decision. Again and again they retired for the purpose, while the delegates awaited the result, and always with the same unalterable reply. This meant that the newly-elected C.S. (Bro. Archibald M. Robinson, of Greenock) and the prospective D.C.S. (Bro. A. J. E. Saunders, of Bristol) sacrificed their new offices of honour, while the services of the retiring C.S. would not be available as Past Chief.

A new Executive was appointed, with P.C.S. A. F. McEwen, of Glasgow, as C.S. (for the third occasion), P.C.S. J. J. Ellis, of Bristol, as P.C.S. (for the second time), and Bro. Robinson Wardman, of Keighley, after much persuasion, as D.C.S. At the same time a Special Committee was elected to consider the whole question—apart from the Executive—of staffing and business arrangements at the Head Office. At the subsequent A.M.C., at Greenock in 1914, neither the Special Committee nor the Executive were able to bring

SCOTTISH CHIEFS and DISTRICT SECRETARIES



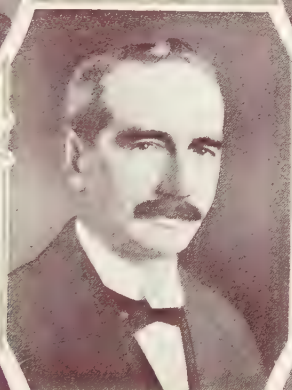
John Charles, District Secretary



James Keowny, District Secretary



Major McKeown, District Secretary



John McMillie, District Secretary



John McNicol, District Secretary



Thomas McKeown, District Secretary



J.S. Glick, District Secretary



" THE MEETING."

Two Scottish Chiefs at Aberdeen.

C.S. Geo. Eaglesham (left), P.C.S. John Milne (right).

a proposal acceptable to all parties and the problem for solution was left over to an Adjourned Conference in October, when the new code of rules was also dealt with. The question of General Secretaryship was again adjourned to the next A.M.C. (1915) at Leicester, aptly styled the "Conference of Peace." Most of the large controversial problems had been solved. A danger in the threatened secession of Bristol, the second largest District, was swept away by an adjustment of the difference. The proposal of the Keighley Executive was practically recommended as the only way out of the difficulty of complicated administration, namely—a supervising Secretary, with assistants for Voluntary and State purposes, while P.C.S. A. F. McEwen was appointed to give a year's service in organisation and consolidation.

The sequel to the Keighley convulsion was found in the latter fact; also the remarkable culmination of the reappointment of the resigning members of the Executive, showing that they had, in the end, forfeited nothing of the respect of the membership by their prophetic estimate of the Order's requirements. Of the nine members of the resigning Executive, Bro. Hewings, of King's Lynn, had taken up the Secretaryship of a Health Insurance Committee, and Bro. C. Robinson, of Ripley, had died. Of the remaining seven, Bros. A. M. Robinson (Greenock), E. Crew (Leicester), and G. Eaglesham (Glasgow) became Chief Shepherds in turn at comparatively early dates. Bro. A. J. E. Saunders (Bristol), who had forfeited his appointment as D.C.S., was elected General Secretary, and P.C.S. John Milne (Aberdeen) is being honoured by an Order Memorial in association with Juvenile propaganda. P.C.S. Andrew McCowatt (Belfast) had already passed through all the supreme offices and remains a Trustee of the Order. District limitations and arrangements alone prevented the only remaining member of the Keighley Nine from going on to the higher planes of office for the time being. The subsequent efficiency and harmonious character of the Head of Order work seems to have justified, in a remarkable degree, all that unhappy convulsion, and the subsequent adjustments, of eleven years ago.

Compulsory National Insurance has now been extended for securing pensions for widows and orphans, also superannuation allowance for workers, regardless of means limit, at age 65. State compulsion has further been applied in a contributory scheme for providing unemployment benefit. Nevertheless, Voluntary Friendly Societies continue to flourish, in spite of all these enactments, and are destined to progress in a new and larger sphere of beneficent service. At the hour of going to Press, in March, 1926, the Government itself is making what is deemed to be a detrimental onslaught upon the financial stability, and the "additional benefits" provided as the reward of wise and economical management of the Approved Societies by proposing to withhold a large amount of the national contributions. This would be a deplorable breach of faith, and probably disastrous in its consequences to the Approved Society members. As a consequent effect, if the attack is forced

to its logical conclusion, it might, whilst imposing discredit upon the State, bring a measure of renewed confidence in the Voluntary Friendly Society movement.

THE LAST FOURTEEN YEARS.

In 1913 there was an increase of 20,333 in adult membership, chiefly owing to the absorption of independent Societies, the total being 147,527, while the State Membership reached 159,346, male and female. Juveniles had increased by only 583, raising the total to 56,195. The total funds were now £1,316,766 17s. 4d. on the Voluntary side, a gain of £69,035 1s. 4d.

1914, at Greenock. Adult membership decreased by 4,626, while Juveniles increased by 4,590, all the latter in Scotland, in addition to enrolments making up lost ground elsewhere. The State membership showed a gain of 2,593. P.C.S. A. F. McEwen had the onerous task of piloting the business of adopting new rules at the special adjourned meeting in October.

There were decreases in adult membership for the next three years, with increases in the Juvenile Section. At Manchester in 1916, Bro. A. J. E. Saunders (Bristol) was appointed General Secretary, with Bro. R. Kennedy and D. M. Bowes as assistants on the Voluntary and State sides respectively.

A turn of the tide to a small increase of adult members was experienced in 1918 at Leeds, and with more solid advances in Juvenile and State memberships. After three years' advocacy by Bro. E. Crew, of Leicester, it was agreed to establish a Fund for the Relief of Distressed Lodges and Districts, a levy of a penny on each member to be collected for four years before administration of the fund should come into operation.

At Aberdeen, in 1919, the eve of the signing of peace after the Great War, the Society set its mind to measures of reconstruction and consolidation. There was a general agreement to reforms for developing the Order's progress. The adult membership had increased for the year by 540 and the Juveniles by 5,184. At this meeting the principle of levying Juvenile members for Head of Order Management was agreed to.

Lytham was the scene of the A.M.C. in 1920. A satisfactory measure of revival was shown by the increase of 6,729 in adult members and 4,212 Juveniles. The total Voluntary membership was now 291,788—adults, wives, widows and Juveniles, with £1,553,303 in funds, while the State membership was 187,602. After many years' refusal of the concession, it was agreed that the three senior members of the Executive should attend the A.M.C. by virtue of their office. The privilege was a short-lived one.

In 1921 the A.M.C. was held at Bristol for the fifth occasion. It was notable for an inspiring call by the late P.C.S. John Milne, of Aberdeen, that there should be a "Juvenile Rally" and continued effort to raise the membership of that section to a quarter of a

million in numbers, as a suitable method of commemorating the hundredth anniversary of the Order in 1926. There was a cordial endorsement of the idea by the delegates, but, unfortunately, the project was not seriously pushed until two or three years had passed by, which minimised the prospects of a final result being reached on the lines desired at the completion of the Centenary on Christmas Day, 1926. Some promising reports and legislation at the Conference, however, were found in the fact that the consolidation of Voluntary Districts into of not less than a thousand members was nearing completion that there was a growing approval of the idea of reinsurance of sickness benefits in Districts; and the formation of a Collecting Society for Life Insurance. The General Secretary reported a net increase of Voluntary adult membership by 2,502, of Juveniles by 5,202 and of funds by £88,298, making a total of £1,626,092. The total Voluntary membership was now 299,810 and the State membership 187,498.

At King's Lynn, in 1922, it was decided that the A.M.C. for 1926, the Centenary year, should be held at Glasgow, the largest District in the Order. P.C.S. John Milne further emphasised the idea of a quarter million Juveniles for 1926, and aroused considerable enthusiasm by his proposal of a "feeding force" for the adult membership. This year there was a decrease of 1,826 in Voluntary adult members, and an increase of 2,604 Juveniles, while the funds were further increased by £70,895, raising the total in round figures to £1,711,342. A decrease in State membership of 2,760 was also reported. The backward movement appeared to be due to great depression in trade.

1923 found the A.M.C. once more at Edinburgh, with a Scottish Chief in the chair. It was a meeting of distinction in its public demonstrations. The Conference was also, in its business aspect, one of unusual amiability. The relief levy was restarted after its cessation for a number of years and the first grants to distressed Lodges were made from the newly-constituted fund. The Head of Order business was now centred in fine new offices named "Richmond House," in the Chorlton-on-Medlock High Street, at Manchester. A view of the newly-acquired building, for comparison with the first house of the Order, a hundred years ago, is shown in this book. The decrease of Voluntary adult membership was continued, but was a little more than balanced in numbers by an increase in the Juvenile ranks, whilst 1,613 were added to the State membership.

No invitations to the A.M.C. for 1924 being forthcoming, the Conference was arranged by the Head of Order officers to be held at Blackpool, a virgin section as to Shepherdry in the West Lancashire District, with a view to arousing interest and possibly the establishment of a branch there. Once more there was a decrease of 567 adult members, but an increase of 9,418 Juveniles, with a slight decrease in State membership. A John Milne Memorial in connection with Juvenile propaganda was authorised, and interest was centred in several other happenings, including the election of Bro. J. Grieve as D.C.S. to preside as Centenary Chief at the A.M.C. in 1926.

South London was visited in 1925. There having again been no invitation to the A.M.C., it was decided to give the combined Districts of the Metropolis recognition and encouragement in their work, which had been consolidated with some measure of success in recent years. The satisfactory report was made that there had been an increase of 901 adult members for the year, 8,982 Juveniles and 826 State members. The Voluntary accumulated funds had now reached the total of £1,902,899, so that for the Centenary year it was probable that the two million sterling point would be passed. The Voluntary membership, including adults, Juveniles, wives, widows and honorary members now stood at 317,935, with the full prospect that with the returns for 1925 and 1926 the grand total, apart from State membership, would reach at least 350,000 for the rally of Juveniles at this stage was growing rapidly apace. "Additional benefits" of a valuable character on the State side, out of Valuation surpluses, were reviewed and authorised. These were calculated to enhance the fortune of the whole movement in the future, owing to improved health and decreased sickness experience. It was a wonderful coincidence that national legislation in the provision of pensions and other considerations were paving the way and presenting avenues to a happier domain for the activities and life of Shepherdry at the beginning of its second Centennial.

CHIEFS IN CHARACTER.



THE BLACKBIRD CHIEF.

Bro. Carrick McDonald, so named for his gifts of Blackbird Pens to Recruiters of Juveniles.



THE PINWHEEL CHIEF.

Bro. A. F. McEwen, so named for his "all-round" endeavours in Shepherdry and Pyrotechnic declarations.

The Line of Chief Shepherds.

The chronological list of Chief Shepherds, from the foundation of the Society to its hundredth anniversary, is necessarily brief as to details, owing to its length as a whole. There may be merit in its brevity, as there certainly is in its completeness. The names of several Chief Shepherds have been struck out of the official records, but not all for serious offences, except that disloyalty to the Order and its interests is ever a justification of ostracism. Their names are given in this full list because good service had been rendered to the cause of Shepherdry before and during their occupancy of the supreme office. Where an offence had been committed it is duly noted.

1827 and 1828. JOHN WHITEHEAD, first W.M., afterwards C.S. A member of Ashton District. He was actively engaged in the affairs of the Order for three years and composed the first lecture, after which he emigrated to America.

1829. WILLIAM LEEBRIDGE, native of Sale, near Manchester. Innkeeper at Ashton and occasional surveyor; a talented penman who executed many of the early surances. Died 1850, aged 77. His personal characteristics and disposition are happily conveyed in the following verses, probably written by J. Critchley Prince (unsigned), in the *Magazine* :—

"A generous, gentle soul was he;
Shrewd, quiet, thoughtful, now and then;
Yet he had humour, frank and free—
A ready tongue and pen.

He loved mankind, he loved his books,
The cheerful chat—the social hour;
And all his actions, words and looks
Were harmless in their power."

1830. THOMAS CHADWICK, of Botany, Mossley. A thorough-going reformer, volunteer soldier and ardent politician. He composed the Shepherds' Making Song; devised the Surance in conjunction with John Nield; and was more devoted, perhaps, than any other in the foundation of branches. He died at the age of 70 in 1861.

1831. JOHN NIELD, of Mossley; composed the Making Ceremony; joined with Thomas Chadwick in evolving the Surance, or authority, for Lodges. He died in 1879 at the age of 79.

1832. WILLIAM SHAW, Ashton-under-Lyne. He had the unique experience in 1838 of being elected C.S. for the second time. Died in 1874, aged 71.

1833. EDWARD ROBINSON, Ashton. Died in 1862, aged 61.

1834. JAMES TAYLOR, Ashton, died in 1862, aged 78.

1835. WILLIAM MOSS, Ashton, died in 1874, aged 71.

1836. JOSEPH GIBSON, Ashton, died 1856, aged 55.

1837. GEORGE BOWERS. After six months Bowers was expelled by "Ashton District" under circumstances related, but he was reinstated at the next A.M.C. with the title of P.C.S.

1838. WILLIAM SHAW (see 1832).

1839. JOHN SCHOFIELD, Ashton, died in 1885, aged 73.

1840. ROBERT SMITH. No record.

1841. SOLOMON HAMPSON, Ashton. Joined the Order at Glossop and transferred to Ashton in 1837; appointed Cor. Sec. in 1854. Always a conscientious and active worker; died after a long and painful illness in 1866, aged 68.
1842. WILLIAM THORPE, died 1864, aged 82.
1843. GEORGE SMITH, Stalybridge; died 1860, aged 66. Born at Saddleworth, near Mossley; a man of vigour, intellect, high principle, religious fervour and a warm and zealous advocate of civil and religious liberty.
1844. WILLIAM BARDSLEY, Ashton; died 1878.
1845. SAMUEL ADAMS, Ashton; died 1900, aged 87. One of the grand old men of Shepherdry, with which he was connected for close upon sixty years. In 1843 he took up the cause of Shepherd children, and may be said to have commenced the Juvenile movement. First started the halfpenny premium for a £4 benefit after 12 months' membership. Thomas Scholfield, the Treasurer, would not hear of closing down when financial trouble came. The premium was raised to a penny and Adams continued Secretary for 12 years. He also formed a widows' and orphans' fund in 1852. When C.S., his casting vote established the *Shepherds' Magazine*. For a long range of years, and up to his death, he was a Trustee of the Order. His wife was a daughter of Philip Buckley, godfather of the Shepherds.
1846. LOT WALKER, Ashton; died 1857, aged 55.
1847. JAMES HEAP, Ashton, died 1875, aged 61.
1848. SAMUEL BRIDGE, Ashton; died 1864, aged 44.
1849. JAMES KNOTT, Ashton, died 1863, aged 57.
1850. JAMES FARRON, Ashton; died 1889, aged 75. Born at Dukinfield; commenced work in a coal mine at age seven years; was early put in charge of an engine; married at 18, and finally became a chief engineer and general mill manager. He was an actively religious man. Appointed Secretary of the Order, as a "strong man," in 1867, when its need was great.
1851. THOMAS FRITH, Ashton; died 1867, aged 66.
1852. ROBERT WILLIS, Ashton; died 1882, aged 75.
1853. JOHN BEARDSHALL; expelled in 1867 for misappropriation of funds.
1854. JAMES WILD, Ashton; died 1887, aged 76.
1855. ORLANDO HAGUE. Struck off list as P.C.S., owing to secession of Lodge.
1856. ISAAC CHADWICK, Ashton; died 1877, aged 59.
1857. SOLOMON FURNISS, Ashton; died 1865, aged 44.
1858. THOMAS LAWTON, Ashton; died 1888, aged 83.
1859. SAMUEL LITTLEWOOD, Ashton; died 1874, aged 53.
1860. JAMES HAMNETT, Ashton; died 1870, aged 48.
1861. WILLIAM EDWARDS, Ashton; died 1863, aged 36.
1862. JOSEPH WOOD, Ashton; died 1878, aged 64.
1863. JAMES SMITH, Rochdale; died 1869, aged 72.
1864. DANIEL SCOTT, Ossett; died 1866, aged 68. He composed the Funeral Oration for the Order which was always his pride.
1865. PETER LYNE, Bolton; died 1889, aged 73. A notable advocate of the widows' and orphans' fund.
1866. JOHN HYDE, Stalybridge; died 1887, aged 64. A Trustee of the Order for 23 years.
1867. JOHN WHITEHEAD, Oldham; died 1878, aged 52.
1868. THOMAS BROWN, Chorley; died 1894, aged 72.
1869. DAVID RACE, Manchester; died 1903, aged 70. A strong advocate of registration and a graduated scale when opposition was hottest.
1870. JOHN PEARSON, Selby. No record.

1871. JOHN BROOKS, Sheffield; died 1908. A valued servant as Parliamentary Agent, and to those who knew him in his latter years a "fine old English gentleman." Advocated a sick and funeral fund at the Head of Order.
1872. JOSEPH ANDREWS, Birkenhead. No record.
1873. EDWARD SENDALL, Lincoln; expelled owing to secession of Lodge in 1877.
1874. WILLIAM FISHER, Liverpool. Expelled in 1875 for being unfinancial during his term of office.
1875. MARQUIS NOBLE, Accrington; died 1886, aged 50.
1876. WILLIAM HODGSON, Halifax. No record.
1877. HERBERT UTTLEY, Leeds; died 1893, aged 59.
1878. THOMAS HAWKINS, Oldham; died 1900, aged 73. C.S. on the occasion of the initiation of Bro. W. E. Gladstone, at Hawarden, and Treasurer of the Order from 1886 up to his death.
1879. GEORGE PARTINGTON, Ashton. One of the committee of six who designed the Emblem of Merit. Expelled on secession of Lodge.
1880. WILLIAM HALSTEAD, Loveclough; died 1911, aged 75.
1881. JOSEPH J. ELLIS, Bristol; died 1913, aged 64. Appointed Secretary of his District in 1875, the beginning of the financial reform era, and reigned 38 years. In the continuity of his attendance at A.M.C.'s, he was recognised as "Father of the Conference" in his day; a valued asset who always gave a reasoned advocacy to all measures for progress, reform and the best interests of the Society.
1882. JOHN WARD, Leeds; died 1887, aged 47.
1883. EDWARD MAYSON, Burscough. Expelled in 1887 for having continuously refused to refund certain expenses for attending the Order Audit during his Chiefship, and which the delegates disallowed.
1884. WILLIAM HENRY WITTS, Newport. Suspended in 1889 for his attitude against the Order's interest in a dispute with Newport District.
1885. DUNCAN KENNEDY, Glasgow; died 1900, aged 52. One of the Order's ablest Chiefs and General Secretary.
1886. WILLIAM LEDSON, Bebington; died 1906, aged 70.
1887. RICHARD BRADSHAW, St. Helens; died 1918, aged 76.
1888. WRIGHT WOOD, Ashton; died 1898, aged 61. One of the Committee who designed the Merit Emblem. His father was C.S. in 1862.
1889. ALFRED MONK, Chorley; died 1898, aged 56.
1890. GEORGE ABBOTT, Sheffield; died 1922, aged 81. An uncompromising advocate of financial solidity (see record of valuations). A speaker in plain terms. In his own words when retiring: "What I thought was right I said it, and what I thought was wrong I said it with equal plainness."
1891. GEORGE CROMAR, Hawarden; died 1913, aged 69. Only Grand Treasurer with a permanent seat on the Executive. A genial personality, influential leader and highly respected by the Order.
1892. JOSEPH NEWSAM, Leeds; died 1894, aged 54.
1893. JAMES ALLAN, Dumbarton; died 1907. One of the most cheery-hearted men; popular as A.M.C. Delegate and Chief.
1894. JOHN F. CRAWFORD, Swansea; died 1894, aged 54. His frail constitution and sudden collapse at the A.M.C. compelled a call upon the Deputy Chief to read his address and preside, thus bringing a tragic end to his Chiefship.
1895. GEORGE ALEXANDER, Perth (Dundee); died 1923.
1896. GEORGE EVANS, Nantwich (Talk-o'-th'-Hill). Still hale and hearty 30 years after his Chiefship. When only 27 years old he was speaking at the A.M.C. (Newcastle-on-Tyne, 1885) for drastic enforcement of registration and valuation; opposed "wet rents"; ever a strong advocate of Juvenile

membership. As a man and brother he was level-headed, of high character, strong convictions, generous in his estimate of others. A worthy Shepherd worker, and a loss to the Order when he dropped out of its Councils.

1897. EDWARD SAGE, Bristol. Advanced in years, but has never ceased to retain a live interest in Shepherdry. He is to-day Secretary of the Bristol Medical Institute, of which he was the father and first Secretary. A stalwart of the days when carrying out reforms involved red-hot battles. An educative guide to his Lodge and a valued leader in the District. First Chairman of Shepherds' Hall. He won the pronounced praise of Abbott Bros. for his successful grasp of valuation matters.
1898. MOSES MCKINNON, Glasgow; died 1919, aged 75. Known as the "Patriarch," even in middle age, because of his white hair (see Scottish regalia).
1899. JOHN MCNICOL, Greenock; died 1920, aged 56. An efficient General Secretary, forceful speaker, dour fighter, straight hitter; always consumed by a love of Shepherdry and a warm and loyal friend. Even as a Commissioner under State Insurance his affection for the old Order never died.
1900. ROBERT CRAIK, Newcastle-on-Tyne. Still living, but out of active Order life for many years.
1901. JOHN MILNE, Aberdeen; C.S. also in 1913; died 1924, aged 60 (see reference to Keighley A.M.C.). Initiated the rally cry for a Quarter Million Juveniles to celebrate the Centenary. One of the most incisive speakers and influential of leaders in Shepherdry.
1902. ALEXANDER F. MCEWEN, Glasgow; also C.S. in 1903 and 1914. His first speech at 1887 A.M.C. was a strong advocacy of the Juvenile movement. An eloquent, able and often fiery speaker. Of impulsive temperament. One of the hardest of Shepherd workers. A fearless fighter always on the side of progress and reform. Has often given offence by his strenuous action and advocacy, but always a loyal Shepherd. His policy as to combined areas in the State Section gave a lead to other Orders, and was justified later by the adoption of the same principle of amalgamation and consolidation in regard to Voluntary branches. His Chiefship on three occasions is unparalleled in the annals of the Order.
1904. GEORGE ROSE, Hanley. Expelled.
1905. HENRY CHARLES LAVINGTON, (Bath) Bristol. A brother of repute in his own city, of amiable parts, successful Shepherd worker, especially for the Juvenile Section; of broad mind and warm sympathies. A notable instance of his genius and work in Bath was the inauguration by the combined Friendly Societies, on his initiative, of a scheme securing in their name regular contributions to the Infirmary, amounting to many thousands of pounds.
1906. JOHN HENRY GARTSIDE, Chorley. He has been about 54 years a Shepherd and was adopted under the aegis of the late Bro. Thomas Brown, who was Chief Shepherd in 1868. He never claimed to be brilliant of speech, but in his composition are the virtues of a true "Lancashire lad," sound common sense, honesty of purpose, generous hearted, a worker but not a shouter. He has been a constant and loyal worker for his Society.
1907. JOHN MUNRO, Dumbarton; died 1917.
1908. DAVID JOHN, Swansea; died 1913, aged 49.
1909. ALEXANDER MACKIE, Edinburgh. When C.S., "R.M.G." wrote of him: "His valuable qualities shine more brilliantly in the Council Chamber than on the platform." Nevertheless he has been one of the most useful men in Shepherdry. His grasp of finance, comprehensive knowledge of Friendly Society work, with attributes of shrewdness, caution, common sense, broadness of outlook, dry humour, even temper, clear vision, modesty with manly independence have made him an influential as well as a popular leader." He is responsible for the "Individual Account" system, which is now making headway in the minds of other leaders.
1910. EDWARD BRINDAL, Bristol; died 1920, aged 78. An earnest Chief, with a love and lavish use of poetry in his deliverances.

1911. ALEXANDER SCOTT (Motherwell), Glasgow. Few men are held in higher respect than the Prophet of "Mount Etna." For 32 years he has been Secretary of the Lodge. He "made" it, and the work he is most proud of is his success in connection therewith. That is the spirit which has built up Shepherdry more than the exalted influence of premier office. He is above all a Voluntary Friendly Society man, but the *Cambria Daily Leader* said of his address at Swansea that "the Chancellor must find himself greatly heartened by sagacious comments (on State Insurance) such as those of the Chief Shepherd." This was a tribute to his catholicity of vision and sound reasoning. These qualities, seasoned by a racy humour, have made of him a seer and a giant in Shepherd thought, even as he is heroic in mould and stature.
1912. ANDREW MCCOWATT, Belfast. There has always been something of the poet in Bro. McCowatt's composition, which revealed itself in speech in his more active days. He is the one and only Chief Shepherd that Ireland has produced, owing to its limitation to the one Belfast District. We believe there is a strain of the Scot in Bro. McCowatt, and his rollicking humour has detracted nothing from his shrewdness in the business aspect of affairs which has characterised his life's work.
1913. JOHN MILNE (see 1901).
1914. ALEXANDER F. MCEWEN (see 1902).
1915. ROBINSON WARDMAN, Keighley. One of the old brand of Shepherds who shirked no personal discomfort or self-sacrifice in establishing Shepherdry in remote places. As Secretary of Yorkshire Union for a generation, he did much to gather in "Shepherd" kindred and help to make a consolidated Order. Without any pretence to oratorical expression, Bro. Wardman, Keighley, was always a steady and loyal worker, whom to know was to respect. His qualities have not been superficial, but enduring and deep laid. The fruit of his labours is being gathered to-day for the benefit of the Order.
1916. ARCHIBALD M. ROBINSON, Greenock; died 1918, aged 68. His geniality and kindness of heart were proverbial.
1917. EDWIN CREW (Leicester), Sheffield. A Shepherd for 52 years. His work has been signalised by little of Lodge or District activity. Official Reporter of the A.M.C. for nearly 40 years. "Father of the Conference" for length and continuity of attendances; Editor of *Shepherds' Magazine* for quarter of a century, and writer of the present hundred years' history of Shepherdry. Was responsible for the establishment of a Relief Fund for Distressed Lodges and Districts; and his name, as Chief Shepherd, is first on the permanent chain of office, which was acquired on his initiative in place of the former "handed-on" soiled collar.
1918. WILLIAM BOWEN DAVIES (Neath), Swansea. Elected as an honoured representative of his District. A typical Welshman. He was credited with rendering assistance when his District was passing through troublous times—a strong man in storm and stress. Advocated centralisation of sickness funds in Districts.
1919. GEORGE EAGLESHAM, Glasgow. The first and only Chief Shepherd to appear at the A.M.C. in a kilt and Highland dress, adapted from the pattern of a Shepherd plaid. The war came to an end when half-way through his term of office, so that, happily, the first note in his address was on "Peace." During his visitations in England, Wales and Scotland, his themes were consolidation of branches, centralisation of sick funds, valuation and extension of benefits for all classes and to meet the times, State medical service and reconstruction. His greatest work for the Glasgow District was in connection with its property and investments. He had 21 years' service with the District Office, and has been a Trustee since 1917. Financial and practical business problems have been his forte.
1920. SAMUEL R. MARSH, Cardiff. His character was well described when elected Chief—as a "diamond in the rough," and he took it as a compliment; but continuous good work gave him polish, took off corners and made of him "a shining light." He labours in Wales, claims to be an Englishman and had the attributes of an Irishman before reaching the Chair in being ever ready for a "scrap" and "agin' the Government." Has a sound knowledge of Friendly Societies in their practical aspect and prone to the

- path of progress and reform. He had no helps in early life, wrought for his own uplifting and was ever a fighter for principle and good causes.
1921. JAMES DOW, Aberdeen; died 1923, aged 55. An able District Secretary and a Chief of well-considered views.
1922. FRANK ANDREW, Manchester Victory. Always a worthy Shepherd. A ready and eloquent speaker, of clear vision, matured thought and wisdom. Accomplished a notable work in consolidating and establishing the Manchester Victory District out of widespread branches in Lancashire and contiguous areas. His address as Chief Shepherd had in it a statesmanlike quality which was generally recognised. He made clear faults in the Order with a commendable candour and fullness, but recognised it at the core as healthy and working well. In spite of all he was prouder of the Society at the end of his year of office than at the beginning. His characteristic is to seek out faults in order to remedy them.
1923. CARRICK McDONALD (Saltcoats), Glasgow. Known as the "Blackbird Chief" for his numerous gifts of fountain pens of that name to all who enlisted a given number of Juveniles. "Get Juveniles" was his pet slogan, and he inspired many other Districts to active efforts in the same direction by the success of his own work and the persistency and cogency of his call. He has cared more for practical work than eloquent verbiage. Has always been on the side of consolidation and go-aheadness, and a whole-hearted advocate of Glasgow as a Centralised State District. He was acting Pro. C.S. when Glasgow New Halls were opened and presiding Chief when the Richmond House as Order Offices was entered upon.
1924. JOHN W. MERRYWEST (Ely), Wisbech. The first Chief elected from East Anglia since the re-amalgamation of Wisbech Unity with the parent stock. Formed the first distinctive branch of Juveniles associated with the State section and in a few months secured 1,000 members. Suffered a breakdown in health after his Chiefship, which he carried through strenuously and with ability, but still maintains a warm and active interest in his Shepherd work. Witness his joint venture with Bro. Titmarsh, of Essex, in acquiring and establishing the Shepherds' Convalescent Home at Heybridge. He was proud to be elected D.C.S. in his own area of East Anglia, when the A.M.C. was held at King's Lynn.
1925. BEN TRERISE, Swansea. The "urbane" Chief who offended no one. Known as "Parson Ben" in his own District. Why? He has served for nearly 30 years as a Baptist Church Secretary; is fond of Scriptural quotations in his speech, such as Paul's "Strive to be a workman that needeth not to be ashamed"; and occasionally he has taken to the pulpit when the Minister had a breakdown. The appellation has usually been a jocular one, but, in reality, it has been a sign of amiability and a term of honour. Bro. Ben travelled some 8,000 miles during his "Chief" year, nearly all in complimentary visits. His receptions, by his own confession, were the greatest revelation of his life for the wonderful Shepherd spirit displayed. He felt that Shepherdry was "over all"—the finest Society in the world. An optimistic missionary of the Order. We repeat two lines which have been written about him before: "He is honest, genial, full of love and kindness, a man of useful parts, a Shepherd with vision and one who, for honesty of purpose, stands four-square to all the winds that blow."
1926. JOHN GRIEVE, Glasgow. The "Centenary Chief!" He regards this as a prouder title than that of "First Chief," because the latter has departed to his reward, while John, as representing the Loyal Order of Ancient Shepherds, is a hundred years old, and very much alive in kicking off for the second century. The manner of the man? Just a brusque and braw Scotsman, who is not ashamed either of himself or his country. For he has wrought well for the Shepherds and kindred movements. He has been trained on broad lines, as Chief of the largest Friendly Society District in any Order, as Chairman of the largest State Insurance Committee in the Kingdom (Glasgow), as President of the Association of Health Insurance Committees of all Scotland, as Chief of the dominant Friendly Society in the north country, and as Centenary Chief of the Shepherds, an international Society, the hundredth anniversary of which is being celebrated in his own city.

1926-7. The Deputy Chief Shepherd, who will be acting Chief at the actual hundredth year of the Society's existence, on Christmas Day, is HARRY W. TOWNLEY, of Chorley. It is fitting that a Lancashire man should be the first Chief Shepherd in a new century, as it was in Lancashire where the Order was born and a Lancashire man guided its initial steps. Bro. Townley ascends to the Chief's chair in the heyday of life. He is young in years, but of mature Shepherd experience. He was a member of his Lodge at age 16, Worthy Master at 18, Secretary at 19, State Secretary at 20, D.C.S. at 32, and will be Chief of the Order at 33. He has inspired his coadjutors to enlist an army of 5,000 Juveniles, in his small town, by the centenary, and will accomplish the task. Is there another record of a "quick march" to Shepherd fame to equal it?

SECRETARIES OF THE ORDER.

1827 to 1828, GEORGE DOWNS.
 1828 to 1832, WILLIAM SCHOFIELD (suspended).
 1832 to 1835, JOHN NIELD, P.C.S.
 1835 to 1837, JESSE TINKER (died in June).
 1837 (temporary), JOSEPH GIBSON, P.C.S.
 1838 to 1840, THOMAS FRITH.
 1840 to 1846, WILLIAM HALL.
 1846 to 1847, WILLIAM THORP, P.C.S.
 1847 to 1853, WILLIAM HALL (died in July).
 1853 to 1866, SOLOMON HAMPSON, P.C.S.
 1866 to 1867, JOHN BEARDSHALL, P.C.S. (expelled).
 1867 to 1889, JAMES FARRON, P.C.S.
 1889 to 1900, DUNCAN KENNEDY, P.C.S.
 1901 to 1912, JOHN McNICOL, P.C.S.
 1912 to 1916, ROBERT KENNEDY.
 1916 (continues), ALFRED J. E. SAUNDERS.

The present General Secretary (Bro. SAUNDERS) has had an eventful and progressive Shepherd life. He is a native of Bristol, but went to Bath when he had reached man's estate, that is, when he had turned 21. He was esteemed for his work there, and on the death of Past Chief Joseph J. Ellis in 1913, was elected to succeed him as Secretary of the Bristol, Bath and Western Counties District. Thenceforward his advance was a flying one. In 1911 he had already been elected to the Executive of the Order, and in 1913 he was elected D.C.S., but relinquished that honour owing to the Executive eruption at Keighley. Three years later he was back again in the higher Councils of the Order as General Secretary, owing to the reformed and developed administrative regime at Head Office. Then he became a regular delegate to the National Conference of Friendly Societies, and in a comparatively short time elected a member of the Executive, succeeding to the Presidency in September, 1925. Consequently, he will hold that supreme office in the Friendly Society world during the Centenary year of his own Shepherd Order. So he became a power in the land at a critical period in the course of social legislation. Thereby the Order of Shepherds is exalted through its chief administrative officer.

Bro. ROBERT KENNEDY, the Assistant Secretary in charge of the Voluntary Section is a son of the notable Duncan Kennedy, who wrought so strenuously for the Society in the final years of the 19th century. His active association with the Voluntary side of Shepherdry dates back for over 30 years, beginning as a youthful assistant to his father. Next to the Official Reporter, he has probably the longest unbroken record of attendances at the A.M.C. In his own section of the work he has given most able and loyal service at the Head Office.

Bro. DENIS M. BOWES, the Assistant in charge of the State Section, is also an acquisition to the higher staff. The General Secretary naturally feels himself well served in both departments. When National Insurance came to trouble the movement, Bro. Bowes, who was already on the staff, took time by the forelock, and applied himself specially to training in accountancy, with a view to grappling with the State Section of the business. In that he exhibited wisdom, and the Order made no mistake in giving him his appointment.

Bro. LOUIS E. CLINTON, the Actuary, succeeded the late Bro. S. Hudson, who followed the redoubtable Past Chief George Abbott in his important work.

Bro. Clinton, being still in the prime of life, and so able and satisfactory in the discharge of his actuarial work, there is promise of his exceeding the previous long record.

OTHER SECRETARIES.

Bro. HERBERT TITMARSH, Secretary of Essex District, and a member of the Order Executive, is responsible, along with Past Chief J. W. Merrywest, Ely, for the courageous venture in establishing the Shepherds' Home of Rest for East Anglia at Heybridge. As it is the first institution of the kind founded in Shepherdry, we give an illustration of the handsome building and grounds in this permanent record.

Bro. JOHN MAILLIE, Secretary of the Glasgow District, is shown for obvious reasons among the Scottish Chiefs. Because of Glasgow's generous undertaking of the Centenary celebrations, he is fittingly accompanied by the Provincial Chief Shepherd (Bro. T. MCGREGOR).

The Scottish Mother District of Dumbarton is well represented by its Secretary, Bro. THOMAS G. CLARKE, who has rendered valued assistance in compiling historical particulars of Dumbarton's part in Scottish Shepherd history.

Bro. JAMES S. GIBB, Secretary for Dundee, along with his colleagues, secured the subscription twelve months ago for more copies, relative to membership, than any other District in the Order, towards rendering the publication of this history of Shepherdry possible.

Bro. H. C. LAPHAM, as District Secretary at Bristol, represents what was once the largest and is now second largest District in the Order.

One other Secretary (Bro. THOMAS WRIGHT), representative of Belfast, appears in our portrait gallery. He prosecuted a very complete and able research for particulars of the Irish branch of Shepherdry, most of which is not shown in this volume, owing to its limitations as to space.

The portrait of the late Bro. W. M. BOULTON, P.C.S., of Wisbech Unity, is included in the collection because of the useful part he played in bringing about the re-union of the two Unities.

TREASURERS OF THE ORDER.

THOMAS SCHOLFIELD, No. 1 Lodge, with Ashton District as Head of Order. WILLIAM LEEBRIDGE, P.C.S., in 1830 (Thomas Scholfield continuing as Treasurer of the "Loyal Abel" Lodge and Ashton District).

ROBERT BUCKLEY, 1831. The office afterwards appeared to have lapsed. In 1840 it was again decided to appoint a Treasurer for and by the Head of Order.

JAMES SCHOLFIELD, 1841 to 1884, son of the Founder; thus was the link with the family maintained for 58 years.

JOHN WARD (Leeds), 1884 to 1886.

THOMAS HAWKINS (Oldham), 1886 to 1900.

GEORGE CROMAR (Hawarden), 1901 to 1913, after which the office of personal Treasurer lapsed. Cheques were afterwards signed by the reigning C.S. and Secretary, and later, up to the present time, by the General and Assistant Secretaries.

SHEPHERDS' HOME OF REST.

The purchase and equipment of the handsome building and grounds known as "The Towers," at Heybridge, near Maldon, was a fine stroke of business. The establishment marks a very distinctive and courageous departure in the provision of "extra benefit" of an ideal character, and it is the first venture of the kind in Shepherdry. To Bros. J. W. Merrywest and H. Titmarsh accrues the honour of its foundation, and they are Joint Secretaries. They are aided by a Committee of four representatives each from the East Anglia and Essex Districts. The State Districts are responsible for the maintenance, but the Essex and Wisbech Voluntary Districts are involved to the extent of £3,500 each. The home is progressing well and shows great promise for the future. Surplus beds, after providing for members of the home areas, are available for Shepherd convalescents from other Districts. The home was opened in September, 1925, by Chief Shepherd John Grieve, who was accompanied by all the delegates to the National Conference of Friendly Societies.

Wisdom and Eloquence.

In 1835, the use of "sheet-iron" was abolished. In early days, the ceremony of initiating a member into Friendly Societies was prefaced with much mystery. To impress upon the novitiate a kind of superstitious awe, he was blindfolded, and upon entrance into the Lodge-room a great clamour was heard in all parts. There was a rattling of chairs, shaking of sheet-iron in imitation of thunder, clashing of swords, stamping of feet, upsetting of furniture, and much more calculated to frighten the life out of the individual if he did not possess strong nerves. Then, in a sudden cessation the beautiful words of the making ceremony would be heard in the otherwise silent gathering. As recorded in 1835 this foolish practice by the Shepherds, at least, was ended, as indicated by the resolution at the A.M.C. to "abolish the use of sheet-iron."

"Be it your concern that, if there be (as among free minds there must be) difference of opinion, yet among brethren there is unity of spirit. Whilst unity exists, the tree of Shepherdry will still grow and extend its branches throughout the land, proving a blessing wherever it may be planted."—C. S. DAVID RACE, 1869.

"Sympathy and benevolence constitute those finer feelings of the soul which adorn human nature; sympathy guards our infancy and instructs our childhood, and performs all the kind offices of friendship in riper years."—C.S. JOHN PEARSON, 1870.

"I believe that we should have both a sick and funeral fund at the Head of Order, and that each Lodge should pay some portion of the member's contributions to support such fund, so that, in case a Lodge or District should break up through unforeseen circumstances, we should have something for them to fall back upon."—C.S. JOHN BROOKS, 1871.

"Across the Atlantic a new and vast field of unselfishness is opened out to Shepherdry. The brother of the old world and the brother of the new world may now join hands in common. The mystic tie which binds our Societies together will be a means of strengthening the relations between the two countries, and may hasten the time when wars shall cease . . . because brother will not go to war with brother."—C.S. JOSEPH ANDREWS, 1872, referring to the opening of two Lodges in America by emigrants from North London and Ashton.

"There never was any great measure proposed, either in the social or political world, but what was received with the greatest opposition, but when passed conferred the greatest benefits on mankind. The wise and prudent conquered difficulties by daring to attempt them."—Bro. W. LEDSOM (afterwards C.S.), in support of Graduated Payments, 1874.

"These Orders, which seemed to have been self-evolved to meet a great necessity, presented one of the best proofs of that inherent habit of self-government which resided in Englishmen."—LORD EDWARD CAVENDISH to Shepherds at the A.M.C., 1874.

"Nothing gives so much happiness to ourselves as trying to impart happiness to others. Byron said:—

'The drying of a single tear has more
Of honest fame than shedding seas of gore.'

This in the fullness of its truth is the first and the last aim of our Loyal Order."—C.S. MARQUIS NOBLE, 1875.

"The Lifeboat has done for drowning men and women at sea what our Friendly Societies have done at home. It has saved their lives."—C.S. MARQUIS NOBLE.

"I feel assured that men who can take a deep interest in the past history, rise, and prosperity of our noble Order, must take as deep an interest in our progressive welfare and our present and future position."—C.S. WILLIAM HODGSON, Jubilee A.M.C., 1876.

"Strength consists more in union than in numbers. A house is composed of a great number of stones, but a heap of stones is not a house. Each stone keeps its place by means of the cementing mortar which binds each to the other, and thus they become a support and defence. O that our Society was united together like some of our old stone walls, in which it is easier to break to pieces the stones than the cement by which they are united."—C.S. EDWARD SENDALL, 1873.

"Friendly Societies have come to be so important and telling a feature in the constitution of English Society, in its broadest and most fundamental part, that no account of England, no account of the nation, of this people to whom we rejoice to belong, would deserve any attention as a real and comprehensive account if it excluded the element of Friendly Societies."—Right Hon. W. E. GLADSTONE (Hon. brother), at Hawarden, 1878.

"Friendly Societies represent the character of the people under one of its best and most lasting aspects, and so long as Societies of this class, justly constituted and honestly worked, continue to form a broad and marked feature in English Society, the country is not likely to go very far or hopelessly wrong."—Right Hon. W. E. GLADSTONE (Hon. brother), 1878.

"This is our annual Parliament. Let us uphold its dignity, and be careful in the consideration of any rules we may be called upon to pass, as, if hastily made and badly constructed, they will fail to obtain the respect of the members of the Order, and may in the future become a source of ill-feeling, doubt and consequent litigation."—C.S. THOMAS HAWKINS, 1878.

"I am sure every member of the Order will work heartily to advance an institution which has for its object the mitigation of human sorrow, and the provision of a refuge for widows and orphans. God must smile upon an institution of that kind."—Cor. Sec. JAMES FARRON, P.C.S., 1878.

"Friendly Societies did not make war against each other. There was no petty jealousy existing amongst them. They were all uniting against one of the greatest curses of this country, and that was pauperism."—C.S. Elect J. J. ELLIS, Swansea, 1880.

"The question of registration was deferred to 1880, and if deferred again, as some pleaded, until 1881, they would again want it deferred to 1882, so that the task will become more and more difficult. The more you threaten to birch a child, and do not birch him, the more he wants birching."—Bro. GEO. ABBOTT, of Sheffield, at Swansea, 1880.

"When Friendly Societies came into existence, the great and noble did not assist at their birth, nor proffer their advice, but they were the outcome of the wants and requirements of the working-classes themselves, who thereby found an easy means by which they could make provision for their wives and families in case of sickness or death, and so to be independent of charity, whether at the hands of friends or the Poor Law."—C.S. JOSEPH J. ELLIS, at Tunstall, 1881.

"Let us always be ready to credit those who differ from us with the best of motives. Truth does not always lie on one side of the question; and as no

man is infallible, let us temper opposition with a little of the grace that comes from the well-ordered modesty born of fervent brotherly love.—C.S. JOHN WARD, Worcester, 1882.

"What the future has in store for us it is impossible to say . . . The dreams of to-day are often the certainties of to-morrow."—C.S. JOHN WARD, at Worcester, 1882.

"Where Shepherds went, the noble crook must take a stand—the noble impulses of their hearts, charity and love to all mankind, disposed them to carry with them what they had received at home, causing them to feel that every man was their brother."—Cor. Sec. JAMES FARRON, P.C.S., 1884, on establishment of Lodges in Australia and America.

"It is amazing how much people need to be protected against themselves. It is all very well to complain of centralisation, but it is a good thing for Lodges to have a central authority to look after them in the matter of bookkeeping, levies, and the protection of their interests generally."—*Staffordshire Sentinel*, on A.M.C., 1884.

"May our actions be guided by that singleness of heart, as fellow-workers in a common cause, which leads us to seek humbly to 'tread the path not only of power and knowledge, but of piety and love,' and to do so 'by unwavering devotion to truth and duty.'"—C.S. DUNCAN KENNEDY, to A.M.C. at Bristol, 1885.

"A distinguishing feature of the Order is that the highest positions in it are open to the humblest Shepherd, provided he exhibits the requisite ability, soundness of purpose, integrity of character and business aptitude."—C.S. DUNCAN KENNEDY, Bristol, 1885.

"The Orders of Friendly Societies in this country have done more for the people of England than all the Parliaments that ever sat at Westminster," said Valuer George Abbott, quoted by Mr. Howard Vincent, M.P., when initiated an honorary member, at Sheffield, in 1886, who added "There is a great deal of truth in the statement, and so long as Friendly Societies of Great Britain thrive and prosper and increase in numbers, there will be no occasion whatever for any compulsory system of insurance."

"The day, I hope, is not far distant when the proud position of the Parish Officer will be unknown in this country, and the workhouses turned into homes, supported by voluntary subscriptions of Friendly Society members, and where every member or his family shall claim subsistence as his due, and not charity."—C.S. RICHARD BRADSHAW, at Burbage, 1887.

A worn and aged figure appeared at the Manchester A.M.C., in 1890. He was introduced as Senior Trustee, who married a daughter of the godfather of Shepherdry, a member of No. 1 Lodge, and who at that time had had the longest connection with the Order of any man living. This was Samuel Adams, who was overwhelmed by his reception. He pathetically, yet with pride and a clear memory, recalled his initiation in 1832, his Chiefship in 1845 and declared, with some emotion, that he had come over from Ashton, because he did not expect to see another A.M.C. He was 77 years old; yet he lived for ten years longer. Among the witnesses of this touching scene, who are still living, were P.C.S. Geo. Evans, P.C.S. A. F. McEwen, P.C.S. Edwin Crew, and P.P.C.S. John Millington, Trustee.

CONCLUSION.

My task is finished, and yet it seems to be only just beginning. There is so much more to be done before it can be claimed that all matters connected with the history of Shepherdry have been placed upon record. A hundred years have passed by and this modest volume presents, on the average, little more than one page for the happenings of each twelve months. That is my apology, if any is required, for the sins of omission.

The most profitable part of the Society's history is contained in the first fifty years, for the triumphs and disasters, the mistakes and contentions of the past have served the Order best by their lessons in attaining its present consolidated success. They present also fingerposts of warning as to the way our steps should be directed in the future.

My review and reflections have, therefore, dealt chiefly with the progress of the Society from Christmas Day, 1826, to the celebration of the Jubilee of its foundation. That was practically the beginning of the reform period as to the enforcement of Registration, Graduated Scales, Valuations and all that bore upon them. The propelling force was the Act of 1875 whereby quinquennial valuations were made compulsory, beginning with 1880.

The chief happenings since then have been more briefly touched upon. Ample opportunity is left for the compilation of other books dealing with modern activities and progress; the yearly records; the rise of Districts with their most distinctive personalities; a narrative of the State Section, and other amplifications.

Numerous chapters, embodying reminiscences of the Annual Conferences, further quotations from the wisdom of departed Chiefs, together with deliverances by their living compeers, have been reluctantly set aside. Many illustrations have also been omitted owing to the limitations of space. Nevertheless, it is hoped that this tale of "Shepherds, Ancient and Modern," will have justified publication by its interest and usefulness.

In conclusion, because of her long-continued concern for the more beautiful part of Shepherd principles, and because for half a century she has shared in all my undertakings and varied fortunes, the joys and sorrows, and proved a helpmate all through, I dedicate this volume to my wife. It is our joint desire, at this felicitous period, that the story of Shepherdry may help to capture the imagination and love of all loyal Shepherds—the younger generation particularly—for the more romantic and beneficent side of the Order when entering upon its new pathways of service after a hundred years.

THE AUTHOR.





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